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Farmer protest 'not over by a long shot'

NO FARMERS
NO FUTURE!

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Sir Keir starts year by flip-flopping again to water down pub business rate rises

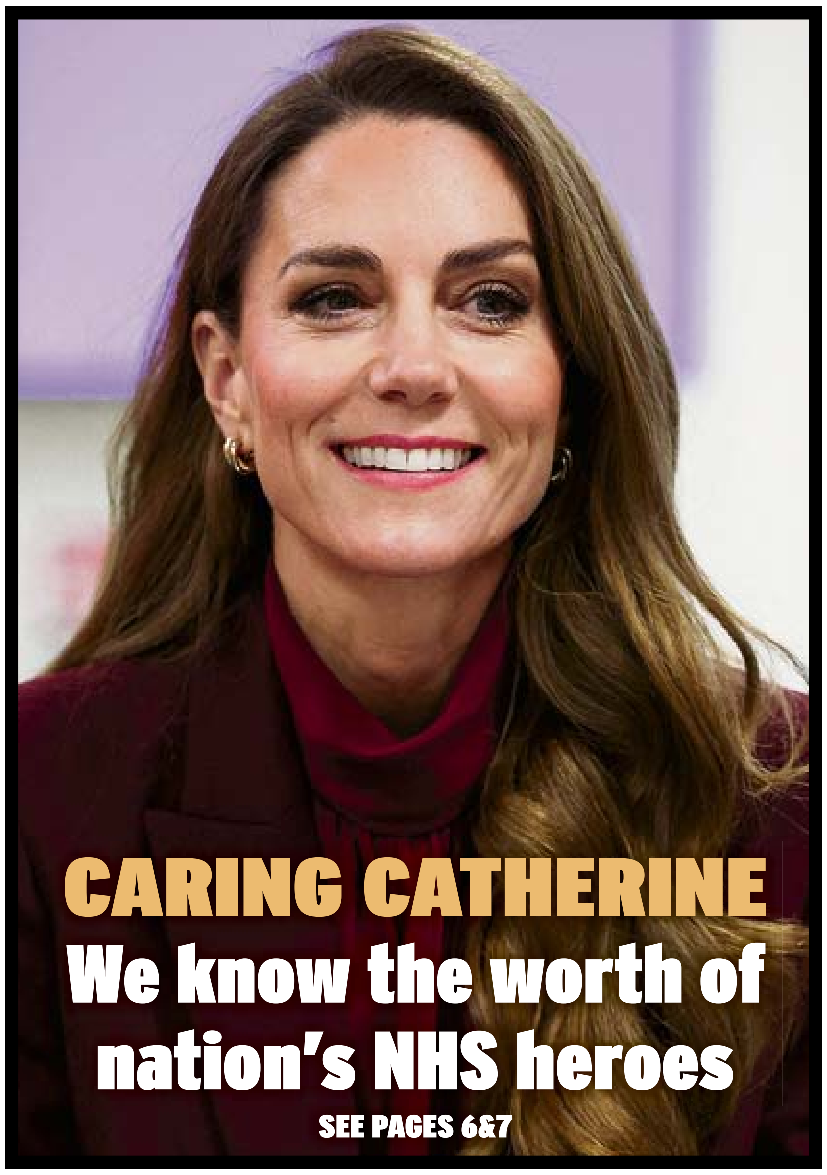
CHEERS! IT'S YET ANOTHER 'TOO LATE' U-TURN FROM PM

BY **DAVID WILLIAMSON**
and **JON KING**

PLANS to ease huge business rates rises on pubs are "too little, too late", claim Tories.

Sir Keir Starmer's latest U-turn, after climbdowns

TURN TO PAGE 5



CARING CATHERINE

We know the worth of nation's NHS heroes

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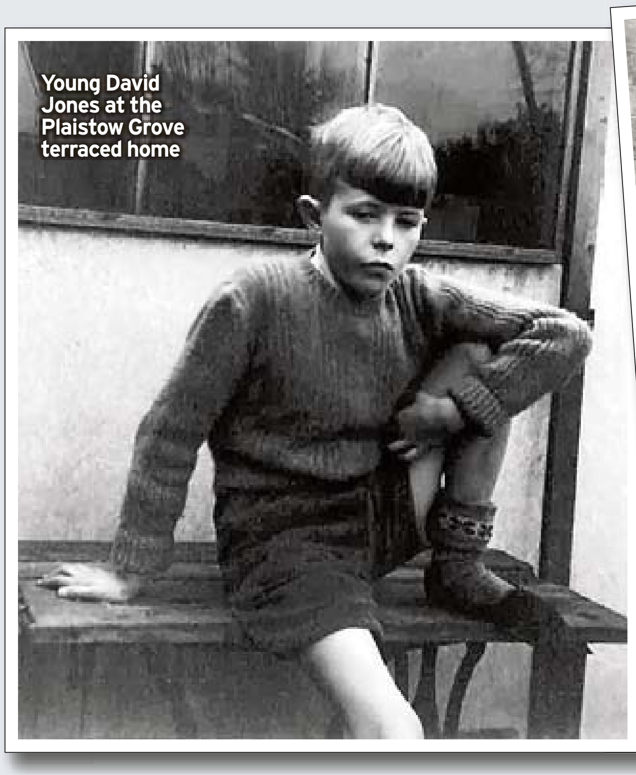
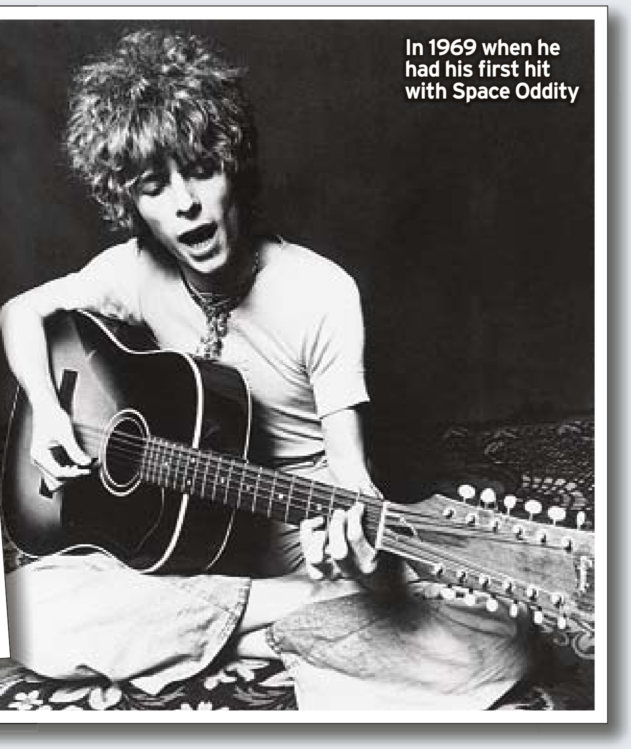


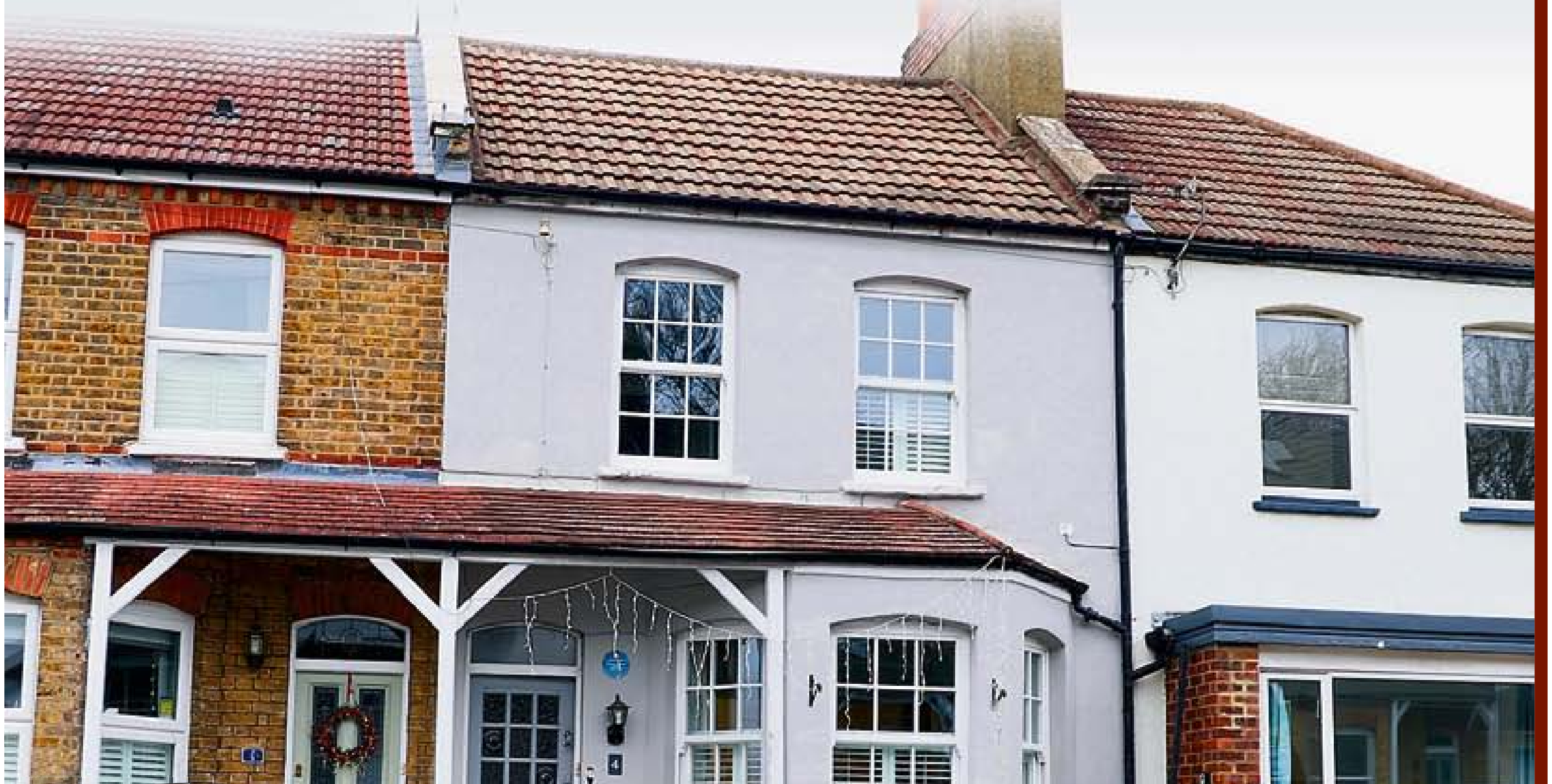
Young David Jones at the Plaistow Grove terraced home



In 1969 when he had his first hit with Space Oddity

Home of the Young Dude

Bowie's old house to be a base for emerging talent



BY **TOM BRYANT**

DAVID Bowie's childhood home is ch-ch-ch-changing back to how it was when he was a youngster – including his old bedroom.

The singer, who would have turned 79 yesterday, lived with his parents at 4 Plaistow Grove, Bromley, from the age of eight to 20, when he was still called David Jones.

On the eve of the tenth anniversary of his death from liver cancer, the terrace house in has been acquired by the Heritage of London Trust.

Working with the V&A, it plans to restore the railway workers' cottage to its 1960s appearance.

They aim to recreate the interior layout exactly as it was when Bowie's father worked at charity Dr Barnado's and his mother was a waitress.

Excitement

A particular focus will be on his Bowie's 9ft x 10ft bedroom where he began writing songs.

The modest home is near the Edwardian bandstand where he performed in 1969, which was restored by Bromley Council and Heritage of London Trust in 2024. The house will host creative and skills workshops for young people and open in late 2027.

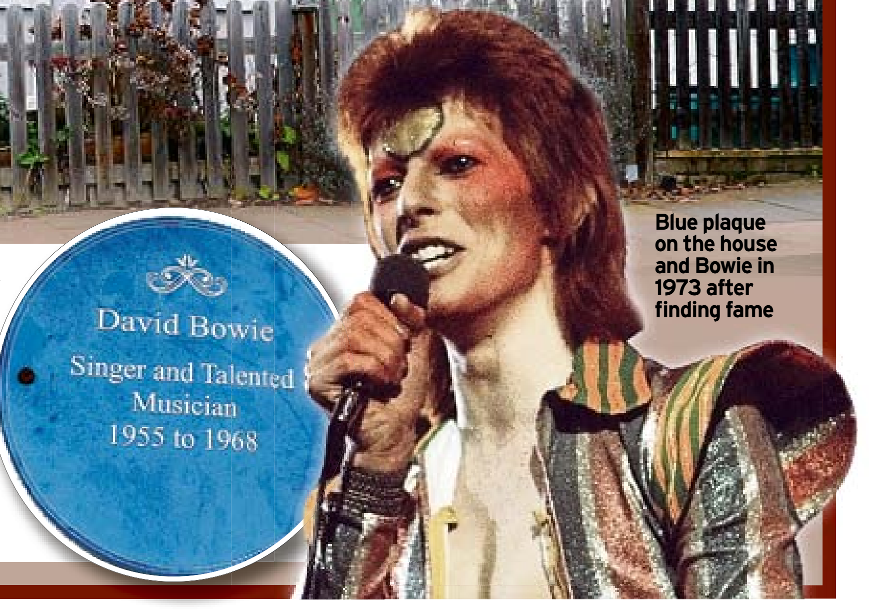
Young David works out

V&A's Geoffrey Marsh said: "It was in his tiny bedroom, that Bowie evolved from a suburban schoolboy to the beginnings of an extraordinary international stardom – as he said 'I spent so much time in my bedroom. It really was my entire world. I had books up there, my music up there, my record player.

Aged eight Bowie played Tutti Frutti by Little Richard on a gramophone brought home by his dad. He later said: "My heart nearly burst with excitement."

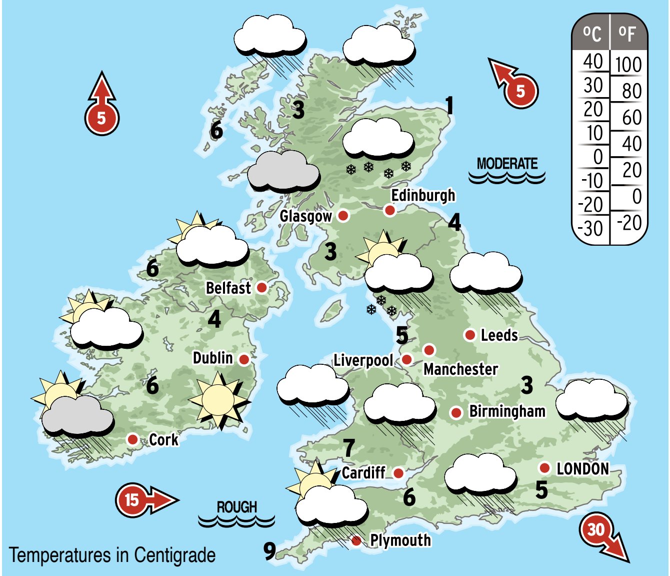
Bowie last visited Plaistow Grove two years before his death, with wife Iman, and daughter Lexi. Musician George Underwood, Bowie's lifelong friend, said he is delighted that the south-east London house will be restored: "We spent so much time together, listening to and playing music. It all started here, from such small beginnings, in this house.

"We were dreamers, and look what he became."



Blue plaque on the house and Bowie in 1973 after finding fame

WEATHER FORECAST



Temperatures in Centigrade

Today's summary: Rainy start, cloudy evening

North West: Wet with light rain turning to sleet or even snow later. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 4C (39F).

Northern Ireland: Cloudy with brief clear spells. Winds easing, temperatures cool throughout. High 4C (39F).

Wales: Cloudy with some drizzle early on. Clearing later, light winds, temperatures cool. High 6C (43F).

Midlands: Cloudy with sleet or even snow turning to rain. Moderate north-westerly winds. Very cold. High 3C (37F).

North East/Yorks: Dull and grey with rain, sleet and snow at times. Light winds. High 4C (39F).

Scotland: Cloudy with wintry mix initially. Precipitation easing later. Light westerly winds, chilly. High 3C (37F).

East Anglia: Persistent wet conditions. Brief dry spells later. Brisk winds. Chilly throughout. High 4C (39F).

London/South East: Wet start, easing to overcast. Brisk winds, becoming colder throughout the day. High 4C (39F).

South: Wet with rain and drizzle for a time. A drier afternoon. Moderate northerly winds. High 5C (41F).

South West: Bright with sunny periods and a scattering of light showers. Gentle north-westerly winds. High 7C (45F).

Channel Isles: Bright with a mixture of sunny spells and scattered showers. Brisk westerly winds. High 8C (46F).

Sea: North Sea: Moderate. Irish Sea: Moderate. Channel: Rough.

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Expect overcast skies with occasional rain. Winds moderate, easing later. Temperatures remain cold, with a risk of frost overnight.

SIX-DAY FORECAST
Temperatures in Centigrade

	SAT			SUN			MON			TUE			WED			THU		
		min	max		min	max		min	max		min	max		min	max		min	max
London	⛅	-2	4	🌦❄	4	5	🌧	7	10	🌧	6	10	🌧	6	10	🌦	5	9
Belfast	⛅	1	4	🌧	6	7	🌧	7	9	🌧	5	8	🌧	4	7	🌦	4	6
Birmingham	⛅	-2	2	🌧❄	3	4	🌧	6	7	🌧	5	9	🌧	5	8	🌧	5	8
Cardiff	☀	0	7	🌧❄	7	7	🌧	7	10	🌧	6	10	🌧	6	9	🌦	5	9
Glasgow	⛅	0	4	🌨	4	5	🌧❄	5	8	🌧	4	8	🌧	4	7	🌦❄	3	7
Manchester	⛅	-1	3	🌨	4	4	🌧	6	8	🌧	4	9	🌧	5	8	🌦	5	8
Newcastle	🌧❄	-1	3	🌨	2	3	🌧❄	4	6	🌧	5	8	🌧	4	7	🌦	4	7
Norwich	🌧❄	-1	4	⛅	2	3	🌧❄	6	8	🌧	5	8	🌧	5	8	🌦	5	8
Plymouth	🌦	4	8	🌧	9	10	🌦	9	11	🌦	7	11	🌧	7	10	🌦	6	10

Britain yesterday

24 hours to 5pm	SUN (hrs)	RAIN (ins)	TEMP (min)	(max)
Aberdeen	5.7	0.08	-2	1
Aberporth	0.0	0.33	3	6
Alnwick	3.5	0.02	-2	3
Belfast	0.0	0.02	1	3
Birmingham	0.0	0.15	1	3
B'mouth	0.0	0.68	3	9
Bristol	0.0	0.63	4	6
Cardiff	0.0	0.65	4	6
Durham	3.0	0.00	-3	1
Edinburgh	0.1	0.01	-5	1
Glasgow	0.0	0.01	-3	0
Hull	1.1	0.00	-1	2
Ipswich	0.0	0.09	-1	4
Leeds	1.7	0.00	-2	1
Lincoln	0.0	0.01	0	2
London	0.0	0.29	2	5
Manchester	0.0	0.01	-1	4
Oxford	0.0	0.19	2	4
S'hampton	0.0	0.41	4	9
St Andrews	0.0	0.04	-3	-1

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: -, sets: 10.39am
SUN rises London: 8.03am, sets: 4.12pm
Manchester rises: 8.21am, sets: 4.10pm

Last Quarter
10 January

HIGH TIDE

London B'ge	(5.40am), (6.09pm)
Liverpool	(2.56am), (3.14pm)
Greenock	(4.36am), (4.23pm)
Dover	(2.49am), (3.17pm)

Britain Extremes:
(24 hours to 11pm Wednesday)

Warmest: Isles Of Scilly, 11c (52f).
Coldest: Tyndrum, -1c (30f).
Wettest: Dyce, 1.22ins.
Sunniest: Wisley, 6.8hrs.

Lighting-up times

Belfast	4.19pm-8.41am
Birmingham	4.14pm-8.14am
Bristol	4.22pm-8.12am
Glasgow	4.05pm-8.42am
London	4.12pm-8.03am
Manchester	4.10pm-8.21am
Newcastle	4.00pm-8.26am

Europe forecast

Today		
Amsterdam	Rain	4C/39F
Brussels	Rain	4C/39F
Dublin	Fair	5C/41F
Frankfurt	Rain	5C/41F
Geneva	Showers	5C/41F
Lisbon	Rain	15C/59F
Madrid	Fair	12C/54F
Paris	Rain	7C/45F
Rome	Thunder	16C/61F

Tomorrow		
Amsterdam	Snow	0C/32F
Brussels	Snow	2C/36F
Dublin	Showers	6C/43F
Frankfurt	Snow	1C/34F
Geneva	Snow	1C/34F
Lisbon	Fair	14C/57F
Madrid	Fair	10C/50F
Paris	Cloudy	6C/43F
Rome	Showers	12C/54F

Around the world yesterday

		C	F
Amsterdam	Cloudy	2	36
Athens	Sunny	15	59
Barcelona	Sunny	12	54
Berlin	Cloudy	-6	21
Budapest	Sunny	-3	27
Cairo	Sunny	26	79
Cape Town	Fair	24	75
Casablanca	Sunny	17	63
Corfu	Shwrs	9	48
Dublin	Cloudy	3	37
Dubrovnik	Sunny	5	41
Faro	Sunny	12	54
Florence	Cloudy	2	36
Gibraltar	Fair	14	57
Guernsey	Rain	11	52
Hong Kong	Sunny	17	63
Istanbul	Thndr	13	55
Jersey	Rain	9	48
Larnaca	Fair	22	72
Las Palmas	Fair	20	68
Los Angeles	Sunny	18	64
Luxor	Sunny	26	79
Malaga	Sunny	14	57
Mallorca	Sunny	15	59
Malta	Shwrs	14	57
Melbourne	Fair	25	77
Miami	Sunny	26	79
Moscow	Snow	-7	19
Nairobi	Sunny	24	75
New Delhi	Fair	13	55
New York	Fair	8	46
Nice	Sunny	9	48
Nicosia	Cloudy	19	66
Perth	Sunny	27	81
Prague	Cloudy	-4	25
Singapore	Thndr	28	82
Stockholm	Cloudy	0	32
Sydney	Sunny	33	91
Tel Aviv	Sunny	27	81
Tenerife	Drizzle	21	70
Toronto	Cloudy	2	36
Tunis	Fair	15	59
Venice	Sunny	1	34
Vienna	Sunny	-2	28
Warsaw	Snow	-8	18

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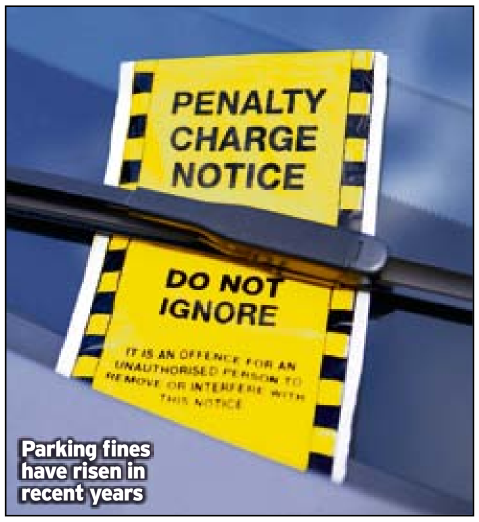
'Councils plot hike in parking fines'

Bid to hit drivers to balance books

EXCLUSIVE

BY **AARON NEWBURY**


PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE
DO NOT IGNORE
IT IS AN OFFENCE FOR AN UNAUTHORISED PERSON TO REMOVE OR INTERFERE WITH THIS NOTICE

Parking fines have risen in recent years

LABOUR council bosses have been plotting with ministers to hammer drivers with up to 700% hikes in parking fines, the Daily Express can reveal.

Damning papers show how left-wing councils have been quietly pushing Sir Keir Starmer's government to squeeze motorists even more, despite drivers already being slapped with rising charges.

The dossier reveals a staggering 44 million requests for driver details were made to the DVLA in 2024-25, a figure higher than the 33 million registered cars on UK roads.

And eight of the 10 councils making the most requests were Labour-run, with Birmingham topping the list with 831,860.

Apology

The bombshell papers appear to show local authorities complaining they cannot balance their books as they seek permission for sharper penalties to help plug the holes.

Shadow Transport Secretary Richard Holden said: "Behind closed doors, a secret plot is unfolding that would drive through huge increases in parking fines, which could be up to 700%."

In a move that senior Tories branded a "cover-up", Labour ministers twice refused to come clean and release the information to MPs. Parliament was kept in the dark until Mr Holden forced the issue with a point of order in the Commons, prompting a humiliating climbdown, a correction and a formal apology from the Department for Transport. Mr Holden said that ministers "wanted to hide" the Labour council plotting. He said: "Once again, drivers are being taken for a ride and everyone knows it.

"Keir Starmer doesn't have the backbone to stand up to his own left-wing councils or to be honest with the public about what they're planning. They need to come clean about who's really pushing for higher fines.

"Labour in town halls, Labour in Whitehall, it's the same story every time.

"Lose control of the finances, panic, then go after working people to fill the gap."

A Department for Transport spokesman said: "These claims are false. The parking sector has provided evidence on current fine levels, which we will carefully consider and respond to in due course."

Lords agree more time to debate End of Life Bill

BY **NICK LESTER**

THE House of Lords has agreed to give extra time to consider the proposed assisted dying law.

Peers reconvene today to continue to continue their detailed line-by-line scrutiny of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill.

Ahead of the session, former lord chancellor Lord Falconer of Thoroton tabled a motion to request "further time".

The Commons and Lords must agree on the final drafting before the current session of Parliament ends in spring for the Bill to become law.

There are 10 sessions on it listed in the Lords from today to April 24.

Former senior judge Baroness Butler-Sloss backed Lord Falconer's call for additional time despite being critical of the draft law.

She said: "I don't like the Bill but we have to deal with it. The reputation of this House...is at stake."

The fight for the Bill is backed by the Express crusade Give Us Our Last Rights. Labour MP Kim Leadbeater's bill has sparked a national conversation about end-of-life care.

CORRECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

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OPINION **12** TV **39** LETTERS **44** STARS **46** CITY **49** SPORT **51** **PLUS** PUZZLES PULLOUT

‘It’s not just pubs that are at breaking point’

FROM PAGE ONE

on withdrawn winter fuel cash and farm taxes, was yesterday denounced as a “pitiful sticking plaster”.

Tory leader Kemi Badenoch warned that the PM and Chancellor Rachel Reeves are “killing” pubs, as ministers scrambled to calm anger over the “devastating” surge in rates.

The government is expected to unveil a support package imminently.

But Shadow Chancellor Sir Mel Stride said: “The problem is far bigger than pubs. Businesses right across Britain are at breaking point because of Rachel Reeves’ choices. Go further and give the rest of the retail, hospitality and leisure sector the support.”

Amid growing criticism, landlords had already banned Labour MPs from more than 1,000 venues.

Now Ms Reeves is expected to bow to pressure and unveil measures to stop well-loved pubs being put out of business by crippling rates bills.

Landlords were faced with a cash crisis as the rateable value of many premises rocketed and plans were laid to end Covid-era discounts. Mrs Badenoch, who has pledged to axe business rates for thousands of pubs if her party regains power, said: “Yesterday Keir Starmer told us Labour had ‘turned a corner’.

“Well, it looks like they’ve turned the corner straight into their first U-turn of 2026. Labour are killing Britain’s pubs. This rumoured U-turn is too little too late. It’s time to back our local pubs.”

Shadow Business Secretary Andrew Griffith claimed the Budget was “falling apart”, with Labour “forced into another screeching U-turn”.

He warned the “humiliating about-face appears to do nothing for shops, restaurants, hotels and markets which all face a more than 50% increase”.

John O’Connell, chief executive of the TaxPayers’ Alliance pressure group, urged the Chancellor to go much further on pubs, saying: “This is a pitiful sticking plaster from a government that claims to support pubs and hospitality while strangling the sector with punishing taxes and costs.

“Ministers are now offering a token retreat and hoping struggling publicans will be grateful. Reverse the business rates grab and scrap the employers’ national insurance hike.”

EXPRESS VOTE

Are Labour policies at risk of killing off the great British pub?

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NO: 0901 133 4441
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Yes text DXYES to 63333
No text DXNO to 63333
Texts cost 50p plus standard network rate

You must have the bill payer’s permission. Vote closes at midnight tonight. The Daily Express may contact you by post, SMS and/or email with offers, goods or services that may be of interest to you. To stop receiving SMS messages text ‘NSNOINFO’ to the originating number. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

Kemi Badenoch poured scorn on Labour’s expected climbdown on pub business rates – the latest in a list of U-turns from PM Sir Keir Starmer, left

Alex Cook, 43, landlord at The Mill in Stokesley, North Yorks, said his rates were due to go up by £1,500 a month. “The industry’s on its knees,” he added. “It’s crazy and heart-breaking.”

Landlord Alex Cook says pubs are ‘on their knees’

Ash Corbett-Collins, chairman of the Campaign for Real Ale, said: “The government must...announce the extra help and permanently lower bills.”

In a signal that Ms Reeves will come under intense pressure if she does not help other firms in the hospitality sector, Sacha Lord of the Night Time Industries Association trade body said: “This is absolutely a step in the right direction, however it doesn’t go far enough.

“The Chancellor urgently needs to apply this to the whole sector. It would be totally unfair to help one part of the sector, whilst leaving another part high and dry.”

Tim Bonner, chief executive of the Countryside Alliance, said: “It is good news if the government has now understood the damage that its proposals on business rates would have done. If Labour wants to repair its relationship with the countryside, ministers would be well advised to consider the impact of their policies on rural communities before they announce them, not afterwards.”

OPINION: PAGE 12

ANALYSIS

MARTYN BROWN
Political Editor

ONCE is a mistake, twice is a habit. So what does eight times make?

That’s where we’re at with Labour, about to make its eighth humiliating U-turn since entering government.

Sir Keir Starmer’s latest climbdown on increasing business rates for pubs comes after he caved in over the Farm Tax and scrapping Winter Fuel Payments.

Other reversals have included a mooted income tax hike – which spooked financial markets – benefit cuts, calls for a national inquiry on grooming gangs, pension compensation for WASPI women and national insurance rises, breaking a key election manifesto pledge. All these U-turns serve to do is erode public trust, infuriate voters and weaken the Prime Minister’s position further.

He and his Chancellor Rachel Reeves have been on the wrong side of each and every one of these policies.

They may contend that they have listened to public opinion, taken note of what the industry is saying.

But why not simply get the policy right in the first place? What this latest U-turn does is throw the spotlight back on Sir Keir’s insipid leadership and heap more pressure on the Chancellor.

Ms Reeves would have been hoping for a better start to 2026 after the tumult of last year.

However, another high-profile cave-in will only intensify demands for her to be replaced.

She and the Prime Minister didn’t quite see eye-to-eye on business rates for pubs, with Sir Keir indicating this week that help could be on its way.

Could it be that a political U-turn over one of Britain’s great institutions finally sounds the bell on last orders for the Chancellor?

Zia Yusuf was highly critical

Chancellor is accused of racism after benefits row

BY **KATIE HARRIS**

REFORM UK has accused Rachel Reeves of racism in a row over scrapping the two-child benefit cap.

The Chancellor had hit out at Nigel Farage for saying he would vote against axing the limit because it would “benefit huge numbers of foreign-born people”.

Ms Reeves claimed the Reform leader would keep children in poverty based on their skin colour.

She told a national newspaper: “I don’t really care what colour a kid’s skin is. Some deserve to be in poverty and some don’t? That makes me pretty angry.

“Does Nigel Farage want to go around and say, ‘White – yeah, you can have the money; black – no, I’m sorry, it’s not for you’. What sort of country does he think we are?”

Rachel Reeves made claims

But Reform’s head of policy Zia Yusuf slammed Ms Reeves’s remarks and even called on Sir Keir Starmer to fire her.

He wrote on X: “Rachel Reeves’s comments equating Britishness with race are beyond the pale and overtly racist. Keir Starmer must sack her.”

A Reform source added: “Reeves is suggesting that black people can’t be British. This is flagrant racism from the Chancellor.”

But a Labour source said the racism accusations were “nonsense”.

The row came as the legislation to lift the cap had its first reading in Parliament yesterday.

WILLIAM AND CATHERINE PAY

VIPs candid about cancer during surprise NHS visit

BY **EMILY FERGUSON** Royal Editor

Catherine and a patient relax during the royals' visit to Charing Cross Hospital, where she bonded with volunteer Maureen, left

THE Prince and Princess of Wales surprised hero health workers and volunteers yesterday – and Catherine hinted at their own "daunting" experience when she had cancer.

The royals were met by "Wows" as they walked into a canteen at London's Charing Cross Hospital, where staff were taking a tea break.

William greeted them with: "Happy New Year!" then jokingly looked at his watch and said: "Can we still say that?" He was due to make the visit solo but Catherine decided to join him at the last minute to show her support for the NHS.

The couple were there to thank the team for working through another difficult winter period.

They sat with them at tables of snacks and heard how volunteers support cancer patients. Catherine, who is 44 today, is in remission after treatment at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Chelsea in 2024. She described it as "quite a daunting experience".

She added: "You've got to have that support from you as a team. Sometimes the skills, the empathy and compassion, the kindness, goes beyond any job description. And it makes such a difference to patients and it often goes unrecognised."

William, 43, told the group: "You should be very proud of giving your time – and knowing what to say and not to say is a skill."

Later, Catherine bonded with volunteer Maureen Gilmour, 86, who told them patients and their loved ones "sit there for hours".

The Princess replied: "I know," then touched her husband's arm and said: "You know."

The VIPs had a second mission on their visit – to highlight the vital work of NHS Charities Together, which represents 220 organisations.

The royals, patrons since the pandemic, also joined patients in neuro-rehabilitation in a therapy gym and arts room. And they were serenaded by a harpist, all funded by Imperial Health Charity, which had laid on the earlier canteen treats.

Catherine and William went on to chat with charity chiefs, trustees and health leaders.

William said: "Both of us have had different experiences with hospitals. Me working in the air ambulance, Catherine with her recent health journey and coming here today and reminding ourselves of just how important all the teams are. All the staff and patient interactions, it's so heartwarming and it's so important that we acknowledge and appreciate all that goes on in the NHS and the very strong bond between patient and carer."

After they left, A&E consultant Ursula Edirisinghe said of the visit: "It was a genuine surprise and it was really, really humbling to meet them.

"It's a bit of a surreal moment when you see people you've obviously seen on TV. You feel like you almost know them!"

Later it was revealed flu numbers have bounced back, with hospital admissions for the bug up 9% to 2,924 each day in England last week.

It raises concerns of a "double peak" and drawn out flu season.

OPINION: PAGE 12

Catherine and William surprise staff and volunteers on their tea break, then join them for a chat, above

Warning on nasal spray

PEOPLE with blocked noses have been urged to only use decongestant sprays for seven days or risk making things worse.

They provide short-term relief from stuffiness caused by colds, allergies and sinusitis. But using them for longer than a week can cause rebound congestion – with worsening symptoms and people becoming dependent on them, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society warned.

Its chief scientist, Prof Amira Guirguis, said: "We'd like to see clearer warnings on the packaging."

Weather 'bomb' storm

BY **FRANCES MILLAR**

A WEATHER bomb blasted Britain last night as Storm Goretti brought gusts close to 100mph and triggered emergency phone alerts for half a million people.

Winds of 99mph were recorded at St Mary's Airport on the Isles of Scilly, the highest reading ever at the site, the Met Office said last night.

More than 47,000 properties were without power in the South West, according to National Grid's website, 5,000 were affected in the West Midlands and 2,000 in Wales.

It came after a rare red warning for extremely dangerous, stormy winds was issued by the Met Office covering parts of the South West.

All trains in Cornwall were suspended and some lines in Devon were also halted because of high-speed winds, with widespread disruption expected to continue this morning. Around 500,000 people in the area received an emergency alert on their mobiles – only the fifth time alerts have been used in this way.

The Cabinet Office said: "The emergency alert system will send a message to every compatible mobile phone in the impacted areas. Compatible mobile phones will make a loud siren-like sound even if they are set on silent. The sound and vibration will last for about 10 seconds."

A red warning is the Met Office's most serious level, reserved for very dangerous weather where there is a risk to life, and significant disruption is expected. The forecaster urges people to avoid travelling where possible and follow advice from emergency services and local authorities.

The storm, named by French

CLIFFTOP-DWELLERS EVACUATED AS GORETTI THREATENS TO SPILL

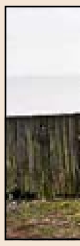
Steve Oliver packs up his home, far right

CLIFFTOP residents in Norfolk have been evacuated amid fears Storm Goretti will speed up erosion. People in Hemsby have been ordered to leave their homes due to worries their properties will collapse into the sea as heavy rain and strong winds sweep in.

Great Yarmouth Borough Council has now evacuated 14 properties on the clifftop, with owners told their homes need to be demolished.

Around 10 metres of coast has already eroded in the past week.

Among those evacuated was RAF veteran George Mayes, 90. Another resident, Steve Oliver, 64, packed up his home before it was demolished.



TRIBUTE TO HEALTH WORKERS

Princess meets a patient in the therapy gym

triggers phone red alerts

HOUSES INTO OCEAN

weather forecaster Meteo France, was described as a "multi-hazard event" by the Met Office, with as much as a foot of snow possible.

Met Office chief forecaster Neil Armstrong said: "This is a complex spell of severe weather. I'd advise people in the warning areas to keep up to date with the forecast and messages from local authorities."

A weather bomb, or explosive cyclogenesis, is caused when the central pressure of a storm falls rapidly. The pressure has to fall by 24 millibars in 24 hours to qualify. According to the BBC, Storm Goretti was expected to see a pressure drop of 36 millibars in the 24 hours.

The Met Office said winds during a weather bomb can be "strong enough to bring down trees and cause structural damage". A yellow warning for wind was also issued for the rest of the south coast and Wales, where gusts of up to 70mph were forecast.

An amber warning for snow runs until 9am today in parts of Wales, the Midlands and Yorkshire, with deepest snow expected on high ground in the Peak District and Wales.

Ice heist! Pub wants its stolen snowman back

CHILLING footage shows a pub's snowman being stolen – now bosses want him back.

Sammy the Snowman was made by regulars at The Potter in Stoke-on-Trent but vanished on Sunday night. CCTV caught three men walk by then one jogged over the snow-covered road... and swiped Sammy. The pub posted: "He was minding his own business, spreading joy. Return him quietly. No names. No shame."

Site manager Callum Chadwick said: "It's obviously not something we'll report to police. All very strange."

Yevgeny Safronov left a note

Reporter on the run from Putin falls to death in Paris

BY **AARON NEWBURY**

A RUSSIAN journalist who fled Vladimir Putin's regime has been found dead after plunging from his seventh-floor apartment in Paris.

He left a note claiming his phone had been "infected" by hackers.

Yevgeny Safronov, 38, had "death threats" and had been living in fear of Russian surveillance.

French police have opened an investigation after his body was found yesterday in the suburbs.

His note said: "All my accounts have been hacked. My Telegram account has been stolen.

"All my mobile phones and applications have been cloned."

The message suggested Mr Safronov had become worried about surveillance, writing that his calls and messages had been intercepted.

Paranoid

He ended the note with a cryptic denial: "I have never worked for Russia's interests and I have never been recruited by anyone."

A friend said Mr Safronov "seemed to be having a full-blown paranoid episode" in the days before his death.

Mr Safronov had worked for Open Media, an independent Russian news outlet founded by exiled oligarch and Kremlin critic Mikhail Khodorkovsky, until the end of 2024.

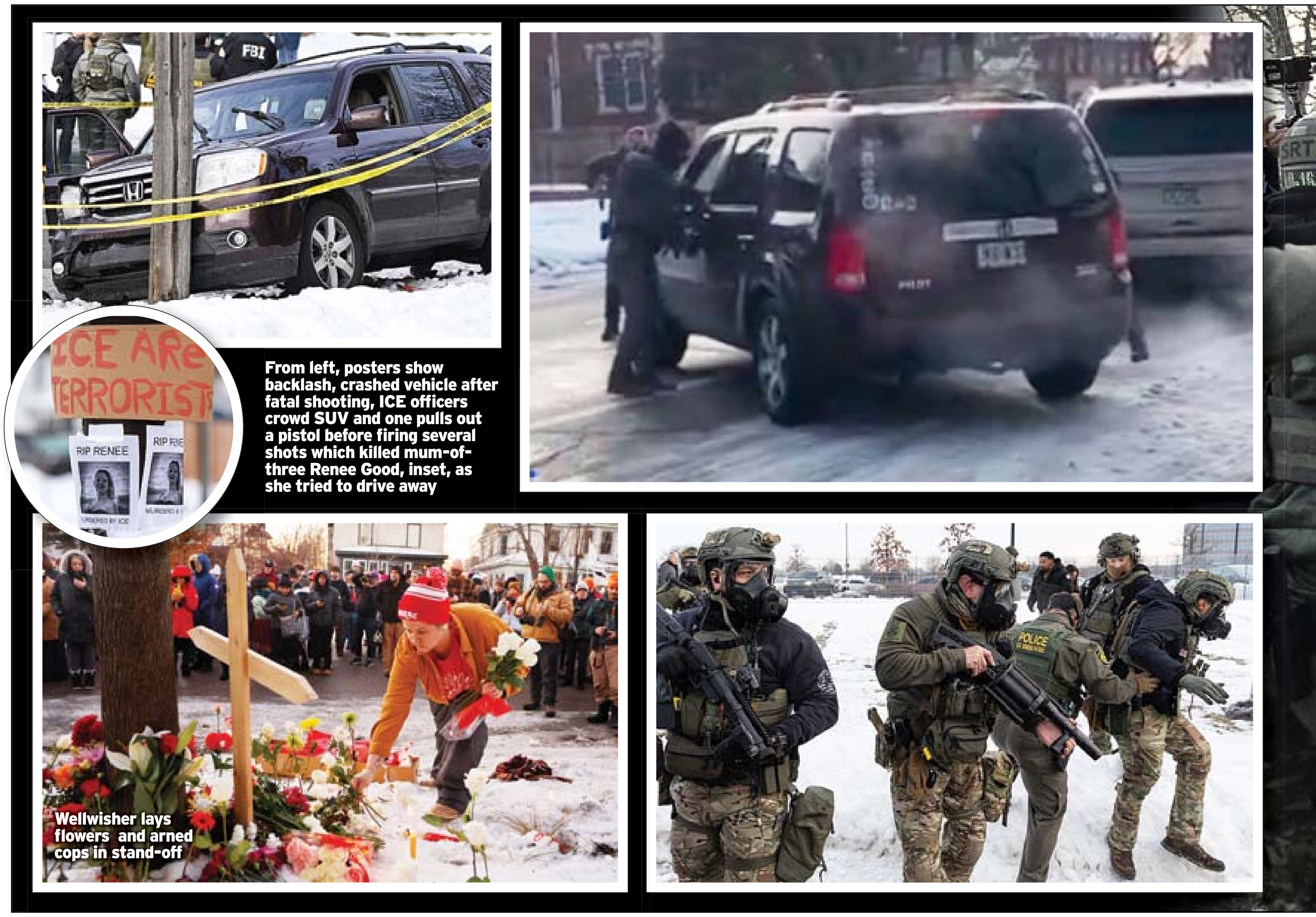
His work had made him a target of the Russian authorities and he was detained in 2021 after trying to cover a court hearing linked to Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny.

Mr Safronov fled Russia that year, spending time in India and Turkey, before moving to France six months ago.

His fall comes amid a long list of suspicious deaths of Russian journalists, opposition figures and defectors living abroad.

WHITE HOUSE TEAM IN

Furious US protests killed during op by



From left, posters show backlash, crashed vehicle after fatal shooting, ICE officers crowd SUV and one pulls out a pistol before firing several shots which killed mum-of-three Renee Good, inset, as she tried to drive away

Wellwisher lays flowers and arned cops in stand-off

BY **ALLISTER HAGGER**

PROTESTERS clashed with police in Minneapolis yesterday amid mounting outrage after an immigration agent shot a woman dead.

Mother-of-three Renee Good, 37, was blasted in the head from point-blank range while inside her car after finishing the school run.

The White House claimed the shooting by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer taking part in the Trump administration's latest immigration crackdown was an act of self defence.

But state and local officials rejected the claim and demanded ICE leaves the state of Minnesota, where the shooting took place.

Sickening footage showed an ICE officer approaching an SUV stopped across the middle of the road. He demanded the driver opened the door and grabbed the handle.

The Honda Pilot began to move forward when a different ICE officer standing in front of the vehicle, pulled his weapon and fired at least two shots into the car at close range, as the vehicle pulled away.

After the shots were fired, the SUV accelerated, apparently out of control, before crashing into a parked car. There were calls for calm, but Minneapolis remained on edge last night.

People laid flowers in blood-stained snow at the scene of Wednesday's shooting, while others protested against the presence of federal agents. Tear gas was fired as demonstrators clashed with officers outside a base for the immigration crackdown on the edge of the city. There were shouts of "No More ICE", "Go Home, Nazis", "Quit Your Job", and "Justice Now!" from protesters as Border Patrol officers pushed them back, dousing them with pepper spray and tear gas.

Protester Shanta Hejmadi said: "We should be saddened that our government is waging war on our citizens. We should get out and say no." Democrat Minnesota Governor Tim Walz expressed outrage over the shooting but called on people to keep protests peaceful.

"They want a show," Walz said of the Trump administration. "We can't give it to them."

Demos took place or were expected in cities including New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Ms Good, who had just dropped off her six-year-old son at school before she was killed, was praised for her

TRUMP FINALLY TAKES SNUBBED STARMER'S CALL AS

KEIR Starmer and Donald Trump's relationship remains strong despite the PM seemingly being snubbed, Downing St aides have insisted.

Sir Keir finally secured a call with the president late on Wednesday following a week of rows about Venezuela, Greenland and Ukraine.

Hours earlier he was forced to admit that his attempts to speak to the US leader had been rejected and he was able to communicate only with White House aides.

The pair later spoke in the hours

BY **CHRISTIAN CALGIE**

after a successful US-UK mission to capture a Russian-flagged oil tanker in the Atlantic off Scotland.

US Coast Guard forces boarded the allegedly sanctions-busting Marinera from helicopters, supported by RAF and US planes using British airports including Wick John O'Groats, where three U028A Dracso ued by special operations command were spotted.

Government sources said the call between Sir Keir and Mr Trump was "friendly and positive", with the PM's

spokesman adding he used the chat to insist that the future of Greenland, wanted by the president, is solely a matter for its residents and Denmark – Greenland is a Danish territory. Sir

CLASH WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS

as school run mum immigration forces

Protesters clash with federal agents in Minneapolis, Minnesota

humanity by her grieving mother.

Donna Ganger told the Minnesota Star Tribune: "Renee was one of the kindest people I've ever known. She was extremely compassionate. She's taken care of people all her life.

"She was loving, forgiving and affectionate. She was an amazing human being." But Mr Trump and Kristi Noem, the homeland security secretary, accused Ms Good of being a "domestic terrorist" who used her car as a "weapon".

The US vice president blamed Ms Good for her own death. JD Vance said the death was a "tragedy" but one "that falls on this woman and all of the radicals who teach people that immigration is the one type of law that rioters are allowed to interfere with". Speaking later from the White House, Mr Vance described the incident as "an attack".

He said: "I say attack very, very intentionally, because this was an attack on federal law enforcement, this was an attack on law and order, this was an attack on the American people." Mr Trump said it "was a terrible scene" and "I hate to see it", but claimed the gunman had acted in self defence. "She behaved horribly," Mr Trump said yesterday. "And then she ran him over. She didn't try to run him over. She ran him over."

The city's Democrat mayor Jacob Frey rejected ICE's version of events.

He said: "Having seen the video myself, I want to tell everybody directly – that is bulls**t. They're sowing chaos on our streets and quite literally killing people."

Ms Noem refused to say whether ICE shooter Jonathan Ross had been suspended. She claimed he was "hit by the vehicle, went to the hospital, and received treatment", adding he had since been discharged.

Yet the footage does not show Mr Ross being struck by the vehicle and he walked normally as he followed it after firing.

He was seriously injured last year as he tried to arrest a convicted sex offender who was an illegal migrant.

Mr Ross was dragged 100 yards by a fleeing driver when his arm became trapped in the car window. He needed 33 stitches.

Minnesota authorities had expected to work with the FBI on the new probe but have been barred.

NO 10 INSISTS US-UK RELATIONS ARE 'FRIENDLY'

US U-28A military planes at Wick John O'Groats Airport

Keir rejected accusations by former Washington ambassador Lord Mandelson that Europe and Britain had become "impotent" on foreign policy matters involving Mr Trump, branding the response to his threats to grab Greenland "histrionic". The former Cabinet minister said in the Spectator: "Europe is transfixed by the Truth Socials [online posts] coming out of the White House but without following the arguments underpinning them. They would do better to ask themselves why the US is making an adjustment and how they, as America's allies, can mitigate its consequences and offset transfer of American resources elsewhere."

Sir Keir's spokesman said he didn't "accept" the former ambassador's position, insisting the government has a "very close, very special" relationship with the White House.

The assurances came ahead of a meeting of Deputy PM David Lammy and US Vice President JD Vance in Washington, as part of the United States's 250th birthday celebrations.

Mr Lammy used the visit to discuss the countries' special relationship plus peace in war-torn Ukraine, while presenting Mr Vance with a contribution to a new time capsule.

Train Brits, says Dame Penny

Demand for 'Dad's Army' to keep UK going in war

BY **DAVID WILLIAMSON**

PEOPLE should be trained to rebuild Britain in the event of war, say the Tories and former military top brass.

But they also urged the government to increase defence funding as a deterrent.

Former Tory Defence Secretary Dame Penny Mordaunt says civilians could keep the country running if we came under attack.

She said: "Britons have incredible skills and an attitude to step up and help. We should be equipping them to do that in the wake of an attack. Politicians can calm concerns by showing they are on the front foot; that the UK is well prepared at home, capable of defending her international interests and deterring those who wish to damage them."

Thermonuclear

Lord Dannatt, former Chief of the General Staff, said: "The government needs to be open and honest with the people of this country about the threats to our security. Part of this openness and honesty is to set out clearly the rate at which we will be increasing defence expenditure.

"There also needs to be a greater and more comprehensive flow of information about the practical steps and preparations that people should take or make."

But Lord Richards, former Chief of the Defence Staff, said: "Our focus should be on deterring war, not preparing to survive one. "In a thermonuclear era, this is a deadly fools' errand." Shadow Defence Secretary James Cartlidge called for greater defence funding: "We need a total focus across government on rearmament and war readiness. The best way to avoid war is to deter it from happening."

Pictures: JONATHAN BUCKMASTER

EVERY MEAL BEGINS WITH A FARMER
WITH OUR FARMERS #together

NO FARMERS NO FUTURE!
RE-UNITE BRITAIN
OUR FARMERS YOUR FOOD EVERYONES FUTURE

Farmers make their point as tractors jam Oxford; Labour minister Emma Reynolds, inset, speaks at the conference

‘This isn’t over by a long shot’

Farmers protest as minister rules out scrapping death tax

BY **KATIE HARRIS**
and **CHRISTIAN CALGIE**

LABOUR has been warned that the row over its inheritance tax raid on farmers “isn’t over by a long shot”, amid a fresh protest yesterday.

Farmers staged a noisy demonstration, sounding their tractor horns as Environment Secretary Emma Reynolds spoke at an agricultural conference in Oxford.

The Cabinet minister ruled out further concessions to the family farm tax after the threshold was increased from £1million to £2.5m last month.

But protesters outside the venue insisted the move does not go far enough. Dan Willis, 50, from Newbury, Berks, warned it still does not allow time for elderly farmers to plan ahead.

He said: “I farm in partnership with my mother, who’s in her 80s. She doesn’t have the time to pass it down.” Dan added: “In this day in modern agriculture what does £2.5m buy? A viable arable farm has probably got £3m worth of machinery. It’s nowhere near enough – the policy is flawed and should be done away with completely on working farmers.”

He added: “Hopefully our message is loud and clear – this isn’t over by a long shot.”

James Wright, from Somerset, said: “Labour want to reset their relationship with the countryside but the farmers here want elderly farmers who can’t do tax planning to be protected. Emma Reynolds has dismissed their concerns and said there will be no further concessions. That won’t satisfy those working to protect their family farms.” Caroline Graham, a widowed farmer from Thatcham, Berks, also warned the U-turn “hasn’t sorted the issue” and called for the policy to be scrapped.

When asked at the Oxford Farming Conference if farmers were right to continue to push for further inheritance tax concessions, Ms Reynolds replied: “That’s it, I’m afraid.”

As farmers blared their tractor horns, she added: “May I also say, with the greatest respect to those outside, it’s the people in this room who have engaged with us constructively, and relatively quietly, that have had an influence on this process – not the people sounding their horns.”

Just before Christmas, the government announced it was raising the threshold to £2.5m following months of protests over the original plans unveiled in 2024.

Critics have warned the proposals could spell the end for family farms, with owners forced to sell up to pay tax bills, while there are fears that elderly farmers are being pushed to the brink of suicide before the changes come into force in April.

The government has insisted the measure, which is expected to bring in around £500m a year for the Treasury, will not affect the majority of farms.

The Daily Express is campaigning for a full U-turn with our Save Britain’s Family Farms crusade.

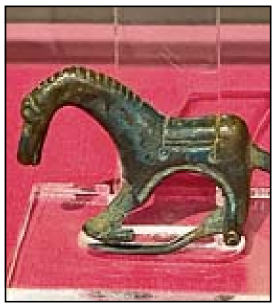
EXPRESS CRUSADE
SAVE BRITAIN’S FAMILY FARMS

~~89p~~ Iceberg Lettuce 19p
~~75p~~ Celery 19p
Freshly Cut Prices on ‘I’ll start today’ salads.
~~£6.80~~ 1kg Chicken Fillets £4.97
~~£1~~ The Best Salad Potatoes 19p
More reasons to shop at Morrisons

Find 100s more Freshly Cut Prices in store & online.

morrisons.com

Majority of stores. Subject to availability. Offers/prices may vary online and in Morrisons Daily. The Best Salad Potatoes 750g, 2.5p/100g, ends 11/01/26. Iceberg Lettuce, ends 11/01/26. Celery, ends 11/01/26. Chicken Fillets 1kg, 49.7p/100g, ends 11/01/26. Serving suggestions.



Horse brooch that was used

Detectorist in Roman brooch fraud is spared jail

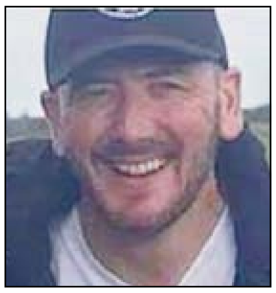
BY **SOPHIE ROBINSON**

A FRAUDSTER metal detectorist who claimed to have discovered a valuable Roman brooch has avoided prison after admitting he bought it on eBay.

Jason Price, 54, was paid £5,000 to display the fake artefact at a museum, even though he had ordered it through the popular online marketplace, Lincolnshire Police said.

The force said Price had submitted a number of artefacts to the county council under the Portable Antiquities Scheme over several years, including Roman coins which were found not to be genuine.

Police said Price pretended to find the Leasingham horse brooch in the village of the same name in 2019.



Jason Price made claims

The item, eventually found not to pre-date the 16th century, had led to a change in the historic understanding of Roman brooches in Britain and was classed as a significant discovery.

Price, of Grantham, was sentenced to 12 months in prison, suspended for two years, at Lincoln crown court yesterday after admitting four counts of fraud by false representation.

He must pay Lincolnshire County Council £3,250 in compensation, was handed a rehabilitation activity requirement and must complete 150 hours of unpaid work.

Will Mason, the county council's head of culture, said: "It's incredibly sad and disappointing that anyone would choose to exploit Lincolnshire's rich heritage."

Explosive bust-up as Traitors Fiona and Rachel clash

Fiona, left, and Rachel go head to head

'I've thrown a grenade'

BY **NICOLA METHVEN**

THE most explosive row in Traitors history took place last night – and not even at the roundtable.

Seemingly ditzy Fiona turned on fellow Traitor Rachel and accused her of lying for her own gain.

She had earlier branded her a "lone wolf" who would not be a team player. Afterwards, Fiona told the cameras: "I've thrown a grenade in – Rachel, you've got a fight on your hands."

But determined to give as good as she got after being blindsided, Rachel hit back: "I've done nothing wrong." Saying it was all madness on Fiona's part, she added: "I'm coming for you!"

The bust-up came after Faithful Amanda, 57, was banished following a tense roundtable meeting.

It ended with her losing in a Chest of Chance with tearful sweet shop assistant Reece, after failing to pick the box containing the shield when they tied on votes.

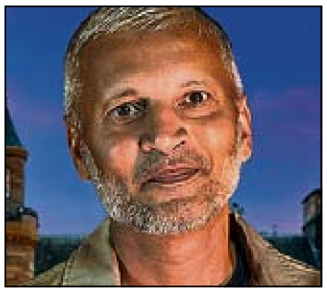
Knowing she was in danger of getting the boot, Amanda had earlier confided to communications boss Rachel, 42, that she was a former Detective Chief Inspector in the Met. Swearing Rachel to secrecy, she urged her to listen to what she was telling her – having been very vocal about her suspicions around certain players.

Speaking about Jade, Amanda said: "I would like everyone to know she is my No 1 target and you must take seriously everything I've said at the roundtable."

Once Amanda had gone – having unwittingly chosen a Traitor as her ally – Rachel told the group about Amanda's job, in a bid to highlight her flawed theories. She said this would encourage the Faithful to take seriously what Amanda had said – pointing them away from the real Traitors.

But 62-year-old local government officer Fiona refused to believe a word, branding it a made-up story.

Shocked Stephen, above; Amanda and Maz, who are both former police officers, got the axe



...and two Faithfuls cop it!

Saying she had "many family members who work in the police force", Fiona insisted that there was no way Amanda would not have come to her with that information – which meant that Rachel must be lying.

Having first told Rachel she thought she had invented the story to serve herself, Fiona told several others before the groups all came together and Fiona declared: "I believe that Rachel is lying – and I believe that Rachel is a Traitor."

As Rachel looked astonished, fellow Traitor Stephen was dumbstruck, saying he was fearful of what would follow at their meeting. "What just happened?" he asked.

It is common for Traitors to turn on each other at the roundtable but rare for them to show open hostility during downtime. It may explain why host Claudia Winkleman has described this series as "brutal".

Amanda's fellow former police officer and Faithful Maz, 59, was earlier murdered in plain sight by the trio. He said afterwards: "I hope the Traitors go on to win. The reason why I say that is because they have to think and be on it all the time."

DAILY EXPRESS

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Starmer's the best bar none at changing course

SIR Keir Starmer will go down in history as the leader of the U-turn government. Recent Treasury decisions threatened to hit pubs with a gargantuan rise in business rates, which the Chancellor now says she wants to cushion. We are glad the duo are prepared to reverse spectacular misjudgments but we are dismayed they make so many. Something is gravely wrong in the heart of Whitehall.

Highly paid officials seem unable to see the outrage, pain and fear that Labour's decisions have on ordinary people. This is a tragic failing of the government.

Political leadership is about much more than making sure the numbers add up on the nation's spreadsheets. It is about preserving the best about the country while laying the foundations for real growth, which will ensure future generations enjoy prosperity.

There are clever people in Sir Keir's team but it suffers from a deficit of wisdom.

Why did Rachel Reeves think she could get away with stripping winter fuel support from the vast majority of pensioners?

Why did the government squander so much political capital on opposing a national inquiry into grooming gangs? Why did it think an inheritance raid on farmers was morally or economically justifiable?

A government dominated by privileged urban left-wingers does not understand the challenges faced by people who would never be invited to their dinner parties.

There is widespread speculation that the Prime Minister and Chancellor's days are numbered. They must resolve not to unleash further trauma on the nation in their remaining time in power.

Our high streets and town centres are in danger of being hollowed out. Urgent action is required to ensure radical changes to business rates do not make pubs, restaurants and other venues unviable.

Labour must not be allowed to force landlords to call last orders for the final time.

Kings and queens of NHS

THE Prince and Princess of Wales were right to praise NHS heroes when they made a surprise visit to a London hospital. Whatever difficulties the health service may have, the men and women who work to fight disease and heal patients display a remarkable fusion of compassion, skill and strength.

As the future king told staff who had waited to meet the royal couple: "You guys keep it all going."

The visit by William and Catherine had a special poignancy given the health struggles of senior royals. We thank both this special family and the legions of NHS workers for all they do to help this country.

Stumped by these losers

THE Ashes has exposed so much that is wrong with English cricket – and the revelation that Harry Brook had an altercation with a nightclub bouncer in the build-up to the tour adds to the sense of farce.

Gentlemen, please take this seriously. Playing for the national team should be the honour of your lives.

We want to see less Bazball antics and a return of the winning spirit of Geoffrey Boycott.

What happened to snow being one of life's great joys?

London, left, is near-empty after snow while it's business as usual in New York

James Innes-Smith

Guest Columnist

STAY indoors! Danger to life! Transport chaos! As Storm Goretti sweeps across the UK and the usual panic about a slight drop in temperature sends the country into paroxysms, I'm reminded of a time when waking up to a soft blanket of snow was considered one of life's great joys; a time when children built snowmen while their parents looked on in delight as drab neighbourhoods were suddenly transformed into powdery paradises.

During those chilly Eighties' winters when cold snaps seemed to last forever and villages across the country were routinely cut off by 8ft-high snowdrifts, we all seemed to manage perfectly well. Northern regions in particular often resembled the Antarctic with heavy snow falling for days on end.

Going to the shops for a pint of milk became an epic adventure as we negotiated our way, Captain Oates-like, along high streets, waist deep in the white stuff. Yes it was a bore having to wear uncomfortable boots and an itchy balaclava – for added grip my mother wore thick socks over her shoes – but we were much hardier back then and carried on as normal, albeit with a snowy spring in our step brought on by the heart-stopping beauty of a frosted tree.

Everyone loved snow despite the hassle, whereas now it is regarded by those in authority as a threat to our very existence. It's embarrassing how easily timorous councils are thrown into a panic by the mere hint of a cold snap.

WITNESS their attempts to mitigate risk by issuing dire yellow weather warnings encouraging us to stay at home "unless absolutely necessary".

Sorry but taking part in snowball fights is absolutely necessary in my book.

Where hardy kids once battled their way across the frozen tundra, desperate not to be late for assembly, they are now told to stay away from school by indignant union bosses who appear to care more about a rogue teacher slipping on an ungravelled pavement than the educational needs of children.

Meanwhile all those gritting trucks that used to clear a safe path lie idle, another victim of swingeing cutbacks. As a result we find ourselves caught in a vicious circle where the dead hand of safetyism meets the entitled arm of local authority overreach. Is it any wonder trains stop running whenever the temperature falls below mildly pleasant?

It's odd that while New Yorkers manage to keep going despite terrifying snowstorms that make Goretti seem like a walk in Central Park, we cower at home glued to hyperbolic weather reports that never seem to materialise.

Last time I was in Manhattan the icy wind barrelling down 5th Avenue nearly burnt my face off. The friend I was staying with at the time described how a couple of years earlier he had been forced to ski to work along a frozen 42nd Street, surrounded by drifts as high as lampposts.

Surely we should look to the Frozen Apple when it comes to dealing with inclement weather, a city that always seems well prepared for the inevitable vagaries of winter. Despite months of sub-zero temperatures, schools in the city remain open and trains continue to function. As the first snow of the season falls, you can guarantee the ploughs will be out in force and responsible citizens will be attaching chains to the wheels of their SUVs.

Imagine how many winter pile-ups could be avoided if we did the same here.

Instead, our lily-livered authorities seem to take pride in never being prepared – a "won't-do" attitude that not only damages the economy but causes far more chaos than the light dusting of snow they insist is a danger to life.

OUR RESPONSE to weather more generally is pretty pathetic. During the summer months, when it's supposed to be sunny and warm, you can guarantee at some point the authorities will warn us to remain indoors because, horror of horrors, it's sunny and warm outside.

Frankly, I wouldn't be surprised if local councils started issuing "golden" weather warnings advising us not to venture outside during autumn lest we succumb to a dangerous flurry of falling leaves.

It's ironic that as winters become milder our tolerance levels seem to have plummeted. This week, as a light dusting of snow fell across central London for the first time in ages, it felt as though the world had come to an end.

Streets were deserted as weather forecasters spoke of imminent disaster. By 4pm the snow had melted, the panic was over and I, for one, felt horribly disappointed. Bring on the next snow storm, I say, and to hell with the consequences.

> 'Lily-livered authorities take pride in never being prepared'

Leo McKinstry

Complacent Europe to blame for the rot

AN AIR of stomach-churning chaos hung over the makeshift British force as it ploughed through the turbulent waters of the North Atlantic in early May 1940. Aboard the two Royal Navy cruisers that carried the troops on their mission, the foul-smelling decks were packed with the groaning, prostrate figures of the seasick. One young marine found the ordeal so unbearable he committed suicide.

After the long, inactive months of the so-called Phoney War, the European conflict had suddenly exploded with a savage intensity when Hitler launched successful invasions of Denmark and Norway in April 1940, followed by his devastating onslaught against France and the Low Countries.

In this crisis, one of Britain's priorities was to prevent the strategically crucial Iceland from falling to the Nazi regime. So the Cabinet decided to seize the territory by unilateral military action.

Despite the troops' seasickness, this goal was quickly achieved once the force landed at the capital. Fierce protests from the Icelandic government about the loss of "independence" and "flagrant violation of neutrality" had no impact.

The British then systematically strengthened their military presence, later helped by the Americans. By the end of 1941 there were 30,000 Allied personnel on the island, which bristled with naval stations and air bases.

The Allies' wartime dominance in the region was further reinforced by their influence over the other Danish territories of the Faroe Islands and Greenland, which alongside Iceland played a central role in the Allied victory, particularly in the use of air power to defeat the U-boat menace in the Atlantic. The military link between Greenland and the US remained solid right through the Cold War, though today there is only a skeleton American military presence of 150 personnel.

But now president Donald Trump claims that in our new era of global insecurity, with the seas around the island "covered with Chinese and Russian ships", America can only safeguard its vital defence interests in the Atlantic by reviving the kind of control over Greenland that was exercised during the war.

To achieve this, the Trump administration is looking at a range of options, most of which would have been considered unthinkable only a couple of years ago – including the island's purchase or even its outright military annexation. Trump has always been a maverick but this is an extraordinary way to talk about a sovereign, democratic nation.

The White House might argue that it is adopting the same approach as Britain took to Iceland in 1940. But the vital difference is that then Denmark was occupied by the Third Reich, whereas today the country has long been one of America's staunchest allies, even sending troops to Afghanistan.

Europe's leaders are on much weaker ground when they pose as the champions of NATO and wail that Trump's policy is corroding the alliance. It is actually Europe's complacent irresponsibility over military funding and self-indulgent, excessive reliance on American shelter that can be blamed for much of the rot at the heart of the Alliance. Last week, Trump pulled off a remarkable coup by capturing Venezuela's illegitimate president Nicholas Maduro in a daring raid by special forces. If proper government can be restored to Venezuela, Trump's decisiveness will have been a triumph for democracy.

BUT THE only winners from an attack on Greenland would be the enemies of the West. The tragedy is that there is no need for this friction, for a mutually beneficial settlement on military bases and access to minerals could easily be negotiated, especially by a president who thrives on deal-making.

There is a whiff of imperial grandeur about the US focus on spheres of influence and the exercise of military might. "The real world is governed by force," says Stephen Miller, one of the most influential White House aides.

Yet America was created by rebellion against the British Empire. The democratic impulse should always inhabit the soul of every independent country. Only in dire emergencies – like that of Iceland in 1940 – should the principles of sovereignty, integrity and liberty be temporarily shelved.

Picture: VINCE MIGNOTT/MB MEDIA/GETTY

How to kick public sector into touch

NO JOB has greater insecurity than football management. According to research published by investors AJ Bell, the average tenure of a top company chief executive is 5.9 years, compared to 1.8 years for a football boss.

In 2005, no fewer than half all the 92 league clubs changed the man at the top.

This week has brought another rich crop of dismissals, with Ruben Amorim out at Manchester United, Enzo Maresca gone at Chelsea and Wilfried Nancy shown the door at Celtic.

In any other business, such instability would spell disaster. But football's culture of instant accountability has made it one of the richest industries on earth.

Perhaps our low output, job-for-life public bureaucracy could learn something from this ferociously competitive world.

Warped values in full force at West Mids Police

THIS IS how democracy could end, not with a bang but with a simper. West Midlands Police are currently engulfed in an incendiary scandal over their decision last November to ban fans of Israeli club Maccabi Tel Aviv from attending a European cup-tie in Birmingham against Aston Villa.

The police's justification was the Maccabi fans' supposed threat of hooliganism against Muslims. But there is mounting evidence this was a complete fabrication by the police, driven by the cowardly instinct to appease Islamist bigots who objected to the presence of Israelis on their home turf.

Pandering to so-called "community leaders", the police seem to have twisted intelligence to suit their woke agenda.

And the West Midlands force has behaved in the same shameful manner in the past.

In 2007, after Channel 4 broadcast a ground-breaking documentary called Undercover Mosque about the activities of hate preachers across Britain, West Midlands Police called for the producers to be prosecuted for stirring up racial hatred.

Today, the values of the force are as warped as ever. That is why Tory leader Kemi Badenoch was correct this week in calling on Chief Constable Craig Guildford, *above*, to resign.

THE BRITISH Medical Association is Britain's nastiest, most irresponsible trade union. But its addiction to militancy has now backfired, with the result that its power has collapsed like an overcooked souffle left in the oven too long.

Figures show that the resident doctors' strike last month had astonishingly little impact.

Even though the number of BMA members taking industrial action increased, 95% of procedures and operations went ahead.

The picket-line poseurs turned out to be far less important than they think.

PM SHOULD PUT AS MUCH EFFORT INTO OUR BORDERS AS HE DOES UKRAINE'S

ACCOMPANIED by a deluge of ponderous rhetoric, Emmanuel Macron and Sir Keir Starmer signed a pact in Paris this week to provide peace-keeping troops in Ukraine in the event of a settlement between Kyiv and Moscow.

Despite all the self-congratulation within the British and French governments, the Paris agreement prompts the question as to why our government does not put the same effort into maintaining Britain's own borders.

If British troops can be deployed 1,500 miles away to uphold Ukraine's sovereignty, why can they not be used here to defend our national integrity? The robustness Sir Keir shows in Ukraine is entirely missing from the management of immigration. But in soft-touch Britain it is failed asylum seekers who are protected rather than our borders. Instead of trying to deter migrants, the authorities provide them with a quasi-ferry service across the Channel, as well as hotel accommodation, priority for social housing, free legal advice and generous welfare payments. The lunatics have truly taken charge of the asylum system.

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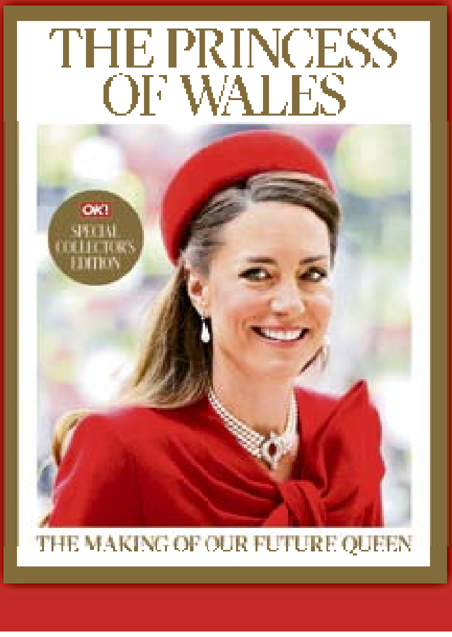
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William Hickey

Bringing the gossip since 1933

APPEARING for the first time as private detective Francesca Carlyle in upcoming film A Murder Between Friends, Dame Joan Collins hopes fans will be seeing more of her glamorous crime sleuth.

Debuting on Apple TV next week, Joan's character is tasked with solving a hot-tub murder on her country estate. With the role prompting comparisons with late friend Dame Angela Lansbury's performance in long-running series Murder, She Wrote, the Dynasty legend's keeping fingers crossed for a sequel.

"Joan's already been informed by the producer there are hopes to bring Francesca back for another film," I'm told. "It's a perfect role for her."

Showing no signs of slowing down in her early 90s, the year ahead looks a busy one for Joan's screen career: along with debuting alter ego Francesca, she'll also be seen playing Wallis Simpson in movie The Bitter End.

◆

WITH the Prince and Princess of Wales tipped to visit America this summer, blabbermouth-for-hire Paul Burrell gleefully predicts: "They will totally eclipse Harry and Meghan's presence in the United States."

A rapprochement in relations between Harry and Burrell – following a secret meeting involving William in 2017 – was shattered when Harry again turned on his mother's butler in memoir Spare three years ago.

◆

ALMOST 40 years since first starring as grandmother Beattie in the famous BT adverts – she appeared in 54 of the commercials – Dame Maureen Lipman recalls being bizarrely gifted with her own telephone box for the back garden by way of thanks. "Which took 10 men to wheel across a lawn on a track," the actress points out.

"When I moved to a flat, I desperately mourned over having to leave it behind."

OUTING himself as a long-time Lego obsessive at the age of 62, former Top Gear presenter James May confesses: "I got the Saturn V rocket for my birthday... which now stands in the corner of my bathroom." Whatever makes you happy, James.

SHE may have co-created one of the biggest ever British comedies, but Gavin & Stacey writer and actress Ruth Jones proved starstruck when meeting the cast of radio soap The Archers. Joining the programme's 75th birthday celebrations, Ambridge addict Ruth blurted out to the show's regulars: "You're in my bed every night!"

REUNITED with old drama-school pal Nigel Havers after watching his West End panto performance in Sleeping Beauty, California-based Bond girl Jane Seymour sweetly announces: "After 57 years, the laughter came just as easily as it always did... catching up felt like coming home."

The pair attended West London's Arts Ed, where they were part of the same ballet class.

A fellow female student fondly recalls young Nigel turning heads in his tights at the time...

By **Robert Meakin**

‘It’s a labour of love’

‘Unpaid’ Shakespeare actor defeated

BY **FRANCES MILLAR**

TO be paid or not to be paid, that is the question...and a judge has come up with the answer.

A leading Shakespeare festival has won its legal fight with a volunteer actor who told an employment tribunal that she should have had a proper wage, not just “beer money”.

Cambridge Shakespeare Festival has staged the Bard’s works in city university grounds for 38 years.

Sarah Campbell, whose actor surname is Goldsmith, claimed she should have been paid for her roles in Hamlet and Richard II last year. But, like other actors, she was given £50 a week for living expenses and put up in free accommodation.

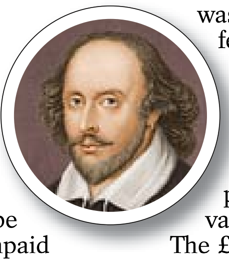
CSF organisers said that the shows were a “labour of love” and “entirely voluntary”. Now a Bury St Edmunds employment tribunal has agreed, ruling Ms Campbell was not a “worker” but a “volunteer”.

The decision contradicts a 2022 ruling that two actors who sued the festival were “workers” – and has been criticised by actors’ trade union Equity, which has been campaigning to have CSF performers paid for the annual two-month run.

The 2024 event, run by founder Dr David Crilly and Jan Burns, put on Love’s Labour’s Lost, Antony and Cleopatra, The Merry Wives of Windsor, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Hamlet and Richard II.

The tribunal heard that the invitation sent to actors auditioning for the CSF said: “We receive replies to invitations along the lines of ‘how dare you expect me to work for nothing...’ Well, we don’t!

“The Shakespeare Festival is a labour of love for everyone involved. We’re asking if the festival is something that you’d like to be involved in on a purely unpaid and voluntary basis. It’s very much a worthwhile artistic collaboration rather than a ‘job’.”



Last year’s budget was close to £250,000 and nearly half went on actors’ accommodation, the tribunal was told. Dr Crilly said the festival’s purpose was “educational”, and any surplus money helped to fund future festivals.

Judge Matthew Hunt said: “[Ms Campbell]’s participation in the festival was expressly ‘unpaid’.”

The £50 would not cover “reasonable subsistence” and Dr Crilly called it “beer money”.

The judge declared that Ms Campbell was not a worker under the Employment Rights Act 1996 and so her claims were dismissed.

Pictures: ALEXI LUBOMIRSKI FOR VARIETY

Jodie not silent on Lambs fiasco

Actress Jodie Foster in shoot for Variety

VARIETY
JODIE'S PRIVATE LIFE

BY **FRANCES MILLAR**

SPORTING a natty leather-look jacket Jodie Foster has revealed she could not be persuaded to star in the sequel to The Silence of the Lambs because the novel it was based on was ridiculous.

The now 63-year-old played FBI agent Clarice Starling opposite Sir Anthony Hopkins’ Dr Hannibal Lecter in the 1991 classic.

But when writer Thomas Harris released the next book, Jodie and director Jonathan Demme felt it was ludicrously macabre and implausible, including a scene in which Hannibal feeds Clarice a victim’s brain, and a storyline that sees the pair develop feelings for one another.

Jodie told Variety: “We waited years for that novel he said he was writing, that he probably wrote in eight weeks. Jonathan said no. And luckily I was doing something else.”

Jodie stars in thriller A Private Life, out in March.

She said: “I’m doing the best work of my life. And the secret is I’ve never worked less in terms of my energy output. I just do what I think, and then drink a coffee.”

● ***Jodie is in the latest issue of Variety online now.***

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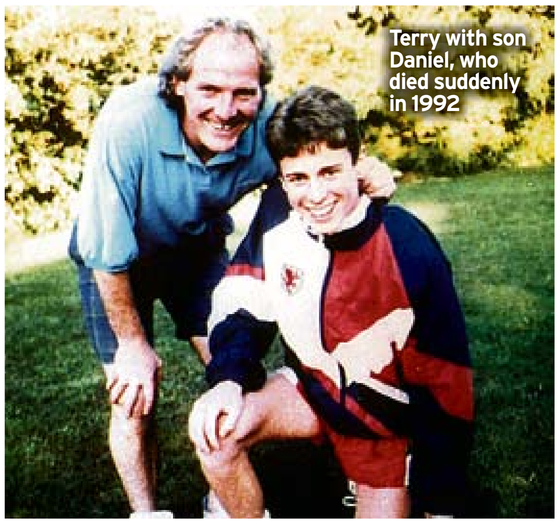


Terry with son Daniel, who died suddenly in 1992

‘Our hearts are broken but we take comfort knowing Dad will be reunited with Daniel’

BY **JEREMY ARMSTRONG**

TERRY Yorath was hard as nails, an old-school football man who was respected throughout the game and an icon in Wales.

A hero on the field, he saved lives when he was in the Bradford City dugout during the 1985 fire, helping fans to safety then having to jump out of a window to escape the flames.

Terry, who has died aged 75 after a short illness, was also touched by tragedy at home when his son, Daniel, died at 15 during a garden kickabout.

Yesterday, his family – including his daughter, BBC sports presenter Gabby Logan – said: “Our hearts are broken but we take comfort knowing that he will be reunited with Daniel.”

Gabby was presenting Match of the Day on Wednesday when she had to leave due to the news. The statement added: “To most he was a revered footballing hero but to us he was dad; a quiet, kind and gentle man.”

Terry’s first club was Leeds United, where he made 199 appearances despite the competition for midfield places from Billy Bremner and Johnny Giles. He won the league title in 1974.

He left Elland Road in 1976 for Coventry and later played at Spurs, Vancouver, Bradford and Swansea.

Born in Cardiff, he was the first Welshman to play in the European Cup final and played 59 times for Wales, captaining them to the quarter-finals of the 1976 European Championship and to their only Wembley victory over England the following year, as well as wins against Brazil and Italy.

Terry moved into coaching while still a player at Bradford, when he was caught up in the devastating blaze which destroyed Valley Parade’s main stand and killed 56 fans. He recalled: “It was horrendous to go back the next day and see the devastation. It was horrible, shocking.”

Terry later managed Wales from 1988 to 1993, when they again suffered penalty heartbreak – this time a missed penalty cost the side a spot at the 1994 USA World Cup.

Former Wales striker Dean Saunders said: “Terry was hard as nails, straight down the middle. He was a big influence on my career.”

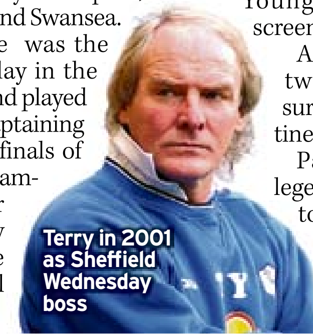
Wales manager Craig Bellamy said: “The impact Terry had on Welsh football is immeasurable. We have so much to thank Terry for what he did.”

Away from football, Terry was a doting dad to Gabby who recalled he called her every day while she was covering the London 2012 Olympics, to let her know how proud he was.

After Daniel’s death, from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Terry campaigned with Cardiac Risk in the Young, calling for heart screening of young people.

As well as Gabby and her two siblings, Terry is survived by ex-wife Christine and five grandchildren.

Paying tribute, Leeds legend Eddie Gray said: “A tough player and a very good footballer, but above all he was a very good man.”



Terry in 2001 as Sheffield Wednesday boss

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England star’s clash

BY **GILES SHELDRICK**

ENGLAND Test vice captain Harry Brook has been forced to apologise after he was involved in a nightclub bust-up before the Ashes series.

The batsman, who leads the one-day side, is said to have been hit by a club bouncer after being refused entry the night before his team’s third one day international in New Zealand.

England lost that game and Brook was dismissed for just six runs.

Details of the incident on October 31 in the capital Wellington emerged after England were trounced 4-1 Down Under in a disastrous tour.

England have been accused of under-preparing for the series and not taking their responsibilities seriously, with heavy drinking tarnishing their time in Australia. Brook, 26, has been fined around £30,000 and told he is on a final warning for his future conduct.

He said: “I want to apologise for my actions. I fully accept my behaviour was wrong and brought embarrassment to both myself and the England team.

“Representing England is the greatest honour of all, which I take seriously and I am deeply sorry for letting down my team-mates, coaches and supporters.

“I have reflected on the lessons it has taught me about responsibility, professionalism and the standards expected of those representing your

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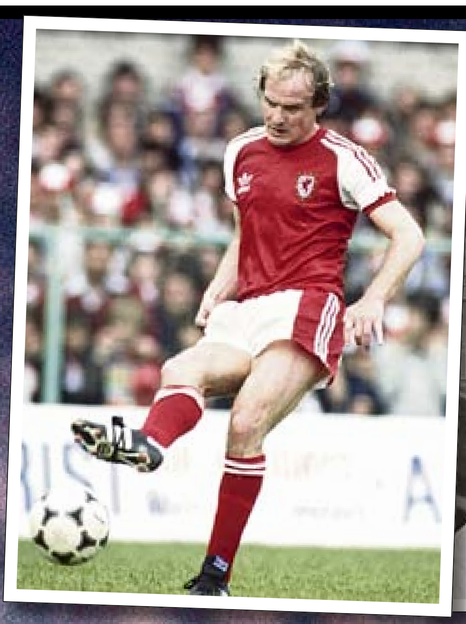

Terry in the 1980s with Christine and their kids

Terry in action for Leeds in 1975 and, above, Wales against England in 1980. Inset, with daughter Gabby in 1998

with club bouncer

country. I am determined to learn from this mistake and to rebuild trust through my future actions, both on and off the field. I apologise unreservedly and will work hard to ensure this does not happen again."

On the same night of the altercation with the bouncer, Brook and England team-mate Jacob Bethell were filmed drinking.

Brook scored 358 runs in 10 innings during the Ashes and has been singled out for huge criticism. The England and Wales Cricket Board launched a review to examine the behaviour of players. It said: "We are aware of this incident and it has been dealt with through a formal and confidential ECB disciplinary process.

"The player has apologised and acknowledged their conduct fell below expectations." Brook will lead England in the limited-overs series in Sri Lanka in two weeks' time.

Harry Brook in action

OPINION: PAGE 12
SPORT: PAGES 54&55

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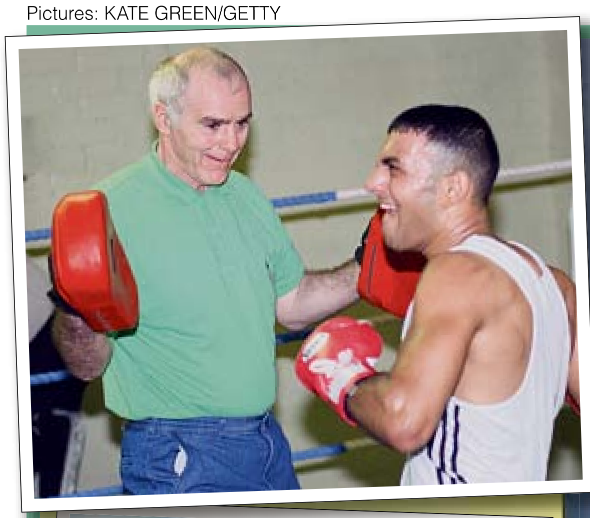


The real Brendan Ingle with Prince Naseem Hamed in 1997. Below left, Pierce and Amir in the movie

A box office hit for Pierce

BY **ZARA ZUBEIDI**

PRINCE Naseem Hamed has 007 in his corner at the premiere of a movie about the ex-boxer's life.

Former James Bond Pierce Brosnan, 72, plays trainer Brendan Ingle in Giant, which tracks 51-year-old Naseem's journey to the world featherweight title.

They were joined by Amir El-Masry, 35, who stars as the fighter. Ingle spotted Naz's talent and flashy southpaw style at an early age and helped take him from the streets of Sheffield to the pinnacle of the boxing world.

Amir with Naz, now 51

Joshua: May God have mercy on my brothers

BY **SCOTT TROTTER**

ANTHONY Joshua has thanked fans for their support as he grieves for the two "special" friends he lost in a car crash that he was lucky to survive.

Personal trainer Latif Ayodele, known as Latz, and strength coach Sina Ghami, both 36, died in the smash in Nigeria on December 29. Shaken boxing champ Joshua required hospital treatment.

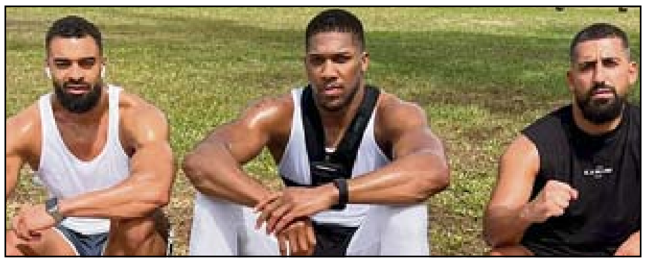
AJ, 36, wrote to his 18.6 million followers on Instagram: "Thank you for all the love and care you have shown my brothers. I didn't even realise how special they are. I'll just be walking with them and cracking jokes with them, not even knowing God kept me in the presence of great men.

"100% it's tough for me, but I know it's even tougher for their parents. I have a strong mind, and I believe God knows their hearts. May God have mercy on my brothers." The boxer had been holidaying in his parents' birthplace following his triumph over YouTube boxer Jake Paul in Florida, USA, on December 19 when the accident happened.

The pals' Lexus SUV hit a stationary lorry on a dangerous road near Lagos. Joshua's driver Adeniyi Kayode, 47, faces four charges, including causing death by dangerous driving and reckless and negligent driving.

The former heavyweight champion returned to the UK and joined mourners at the funerals of his friends in London at the weekend. His uncle Adedamola has suggested he could retire from the ring, telling Nigerian paper The Punch: "That is one thing that makes us glad because each time he's fighting in the ring, we are always carried away emotionally."

But Eddie Hearn, the two-time world champion's agent, said: "Anthony needs time. Time and privacy. There will be no conversations from us about a career."



Special friends Latz, left, and Sina, right, with champ boxer Joshua

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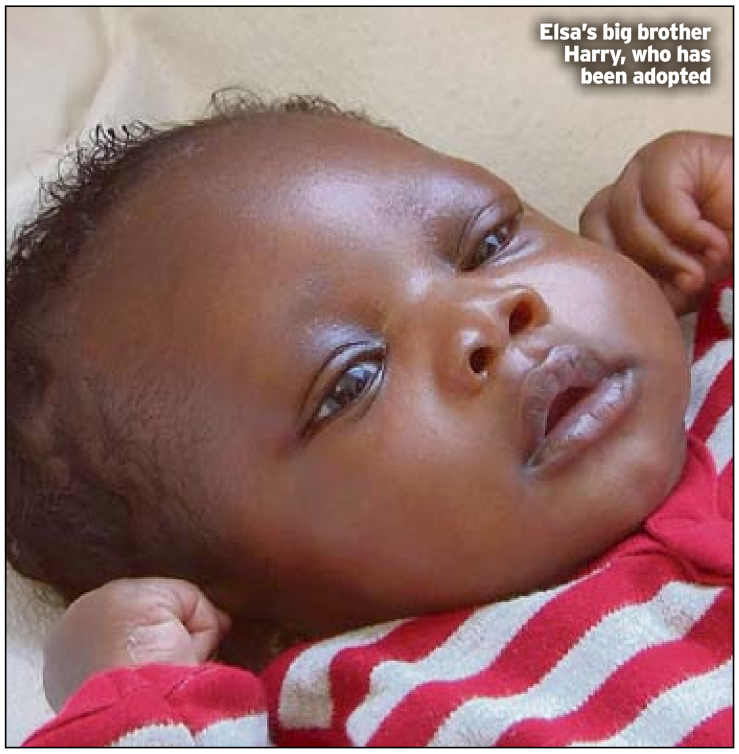
Baby Elsa to be adopted

‘Extraordinary’ story of three siblings abandoned in same area

BY **CALLUM PARKE**


Elsa’s big brother Harry, who has been adopted

Elsa’s sister Roman, the bag in which Elsa was left and site where she was found in Newham

THE third of three siblings abandoned as newborns over eight years looks set to be adopted, as a judge called her story extraordinary.

“Harry”, “Roman” and “Elsa” were discovered in the same area of East London in 2017, 2019 and 2024.

DNA tests show they share the same mother and father, but their parents have never been found despite extensive police investigations and the offer of a £20,000 reward.

Harry and Roman had already been adopted and a judge has now ruled that Elsa should remain with her current foster family. It paves the way for them applying to adopt her.

Settled

Sitting at East London Family Court yesterday, Judge Carol Atkinson added that Elsa’s story is “quite extraordinary”, adding: “Elsa is a beautiful little girl, a raucous bundle of excitement and laughter.

“I am pleased to have seen photos of her. I know from reports that she lights up the space around her. She is happy and settled in her new family.”

Judge Atkinson also said abandoning children is now thankfully very rare, with only eight cases registered in England and Wales between 2008 and 2018. In written submissions for the hearing, Kate Claxton, for Newham Council, said that there would be contact between the siblings, including play dates and letters.

Harry was found wrapped in a white blanket in Plaistow in September 2017. Roman was found in a play area in Newham, in late January 2019.

Elsa was discovered in a shopping bag in Newham on January 18, 2024.

Last year the Met Police said the person who left the babies must have come from one of 400 nearby homes.

They have concerns for the mother’s welfare and Det Supt Lewis Basford said: “I urge anyone who may be sitting on information to contact us.”

Inquest into car death of m’way teen

BY **CLAIRE HAYHURST**

A TEENAGER fatally hit by a car after getting out of an ambulance on a motorway is believed to have died from multiple injuries, an inquest opening has heard.

Logan Smith, 18, was being taken to hospital at 11pm on November 30 when the vehicle had to pull over on the hard shoulder due to the concerns of paramedics.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct previously told how Mr Smith got out on the M5 near the junction for his Somerset home town of Weston-super-Mare and entered the live lanes.

An officer called to the scene tried to engage with him then discharged their Taser. Mr Smith fell and was hit by a car.

Avon Coroner’s officer Alexis Camp said pathologist Dr Russell Delaney gave multiple injuries as a provisional cause of death.

Assistant coroner for Avon, Dr Peter Harrowing, said there would be a review of the case on March 30.

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THE QUEEN OF TIMELESS FASHION

A new exhibition dedicated to the style of Elizabeth II throughout each decade of her life opens this spring. Deputy royal editor REBECCA RUSSELL gets a sneak preview of some of the most iconic and influential outfits

SHE WAS Britain's longest-reigning monarch with one of the most recognisable faces on Earth. But Queen Elizabeth II's impact also extended to her sartorial style and the iconic outfits she wore. Which is why this spring, to celebrate 100 years since her birth, Buckingham Palace is staging a rare exhibition to chart the fashion legacy of the late sovereign throughout each decade of her life.

Opening at the King's Gallery on April 10, Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style will display 200 rarely seen outfits, jewellery and accessories. Some have never before been on public display.

The showcase will also celebrate Elizabeth's influence on leading British designers, including Erdem Moralioglu, Richard Quinn and Christopher Kane – all of whom are set to contribute their reflections on her fashion legacy in the official centenary publication, Queen Elizabeth II: Fashion and Style.

Here, exhibition curator Caroline de Guitaut reveals her own fashion highlights and what they say about the late Queen.

● *Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style is at the King's Gallery in Buckingham Palace from April 10 to October 18. Entry is £22 for adults, £14 for 18 to 24-year-olds, £11 for 5-17 years. Under 5s free. Concessions available. Visit rct/collection/exhibitions*

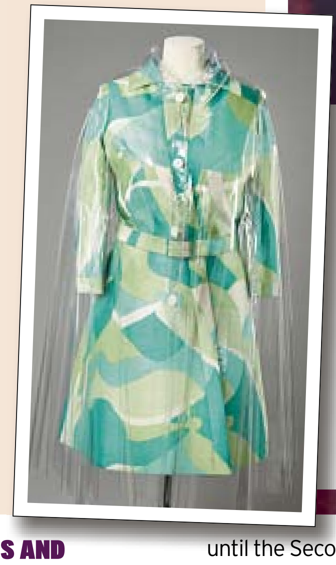
CLEAR RAINCOAT, HARDY AMIES, 1960S

THIS clear plastic raincoat was designed by Hardy Amies, who later went on to create the costumes for the 1968 film A Space Odyssey. Its uniqueness is not lost on de Guitaut.

"It struck me as a directional piece," she says. "What's so wonderful about it is that I can remember wearing little plastic raincoats as a child but this one is made by a couturier!

"It is elegantly tailored and has beautiful little mother-of-pearl buttons.

"Everything about it speaks to Hardy Amies' strengths. Much like Elizabeth's see-through umbrellas, the coat allowed her vibrant clothing to be seen in a crowd, while keeping her safe from the rain."



CORONATION DRESS, NORMAN HARTNELL, 1953

ELIZABETH'S spectacular coronation dress from 1953 features floral emblems of the countries of the UK and Commonwealth.

"The Queen asked Hartnell to produce this because of the success of the wedding dress, and she knew that those two dresses were probably the most important things that she would wear in her entire life," says de Guitaut.

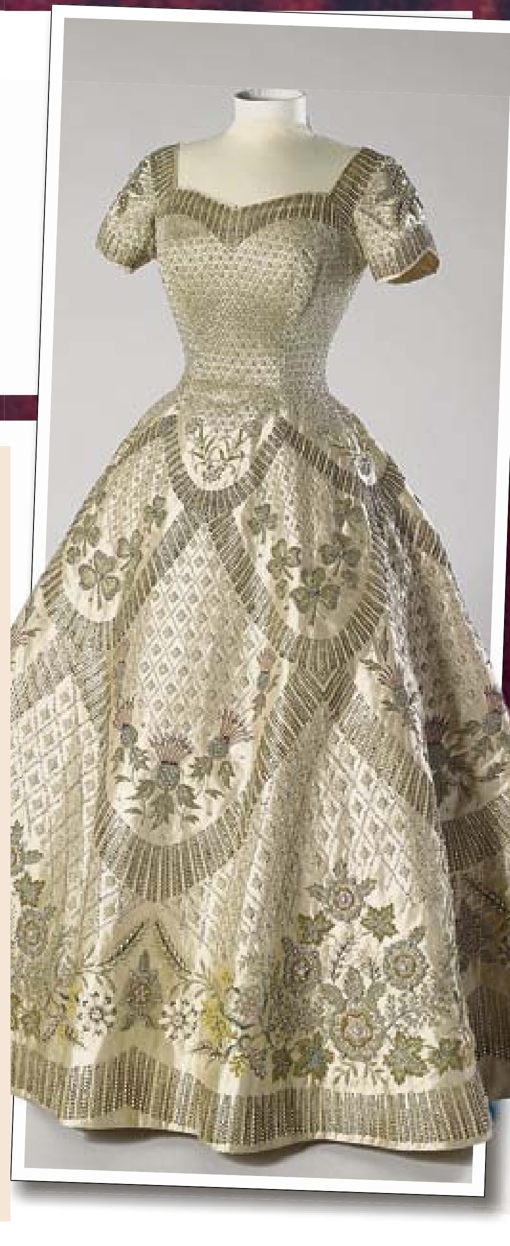
"She wanted her coronation dress to be in the same off-white silk satin.

"Hartnell came up with eight different designs. The Queen selected the eighth but had the embroidery scheme amended so that it was in coloured silks.

"To support the considerable weight of the intricate embroidery, the dress under the skirts had to be reinforced with padding, resulting in extensive details regarding its construction.

"It's one of Hartnell's greatest embroidery schemes that he ever produced, with consideration given to the lights of the Abbey.

"He had this great sense of performance and had designed costumes for film stars, so he was absolutely the right person for the job."



COTTON LAWN DRESS AND BLOOMERS, SMITH AND CO, CIRCA 1935

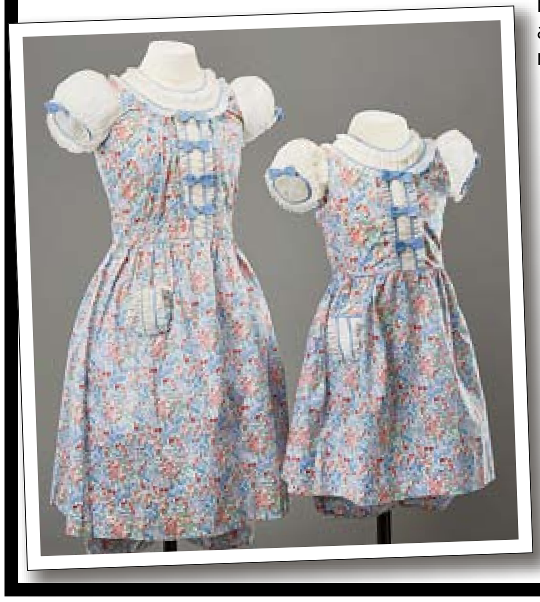
TWO adorable dresses worn by Princess Elizabeth and her younger sister Margaret Rose will have pride of place in the exhibition.

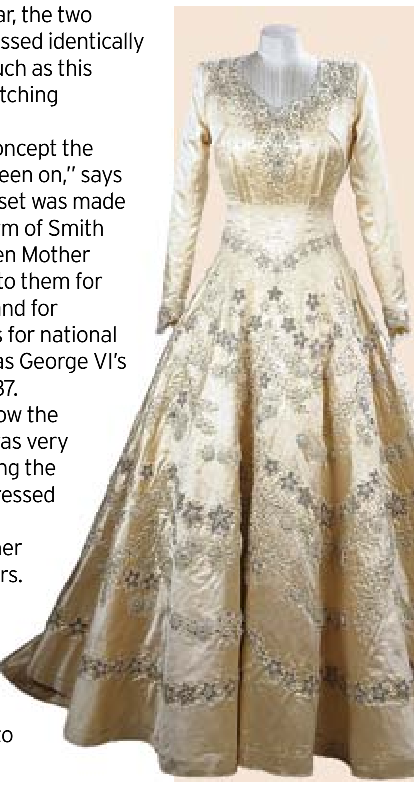
From Margaret's birth in 1930 until the Second World War, the two princesses were often dressed identically in simple floral dresses, such as this cotton lawn dress and matching bloomers set.

"Twin dressing was a concept the Queen Mother was very keen on," says de Guitaut. "This set was made by the London firm of Smith and Co. The Queen Mother repeatedly went to them for everyday items and for important outfits for national occasions, such as George VI's coronation in 1937.

"They show how the Queen Mother was very clearly influencing the way Elizabeth dressed as a child, which continued into her young adult years.

"She then began making her own decisions, which were quite different to her mother's."





WEDDING DRESS, NORMAN HARTNELL, 1947

A STAR attraction of the exhibition is Queen Elizabeth II's wedding dress from 1947, designed by Norman Hartnell and featuring 10,000 seed pearls and crystals. With rationing still in place following the end of the Second World War, materials were limited.

Many royal fans sent their own assigned coupons to the palace so the Princess could have the perfect dress. They were returned as this would have been deemed illegal. However, the government allowed Elizabeth to use 200 extra ration coupons to have her dress made.

"It's about rebirth and renewal after the war," says de Guitaut. "It has meaningful embroidered motifs including spring flowers, roses referencing the House of York, and wheat for prosperity."

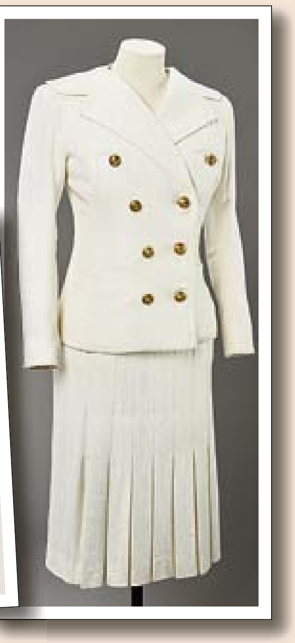
WHITE SUIT, NORMAN HARTNELL, 1947

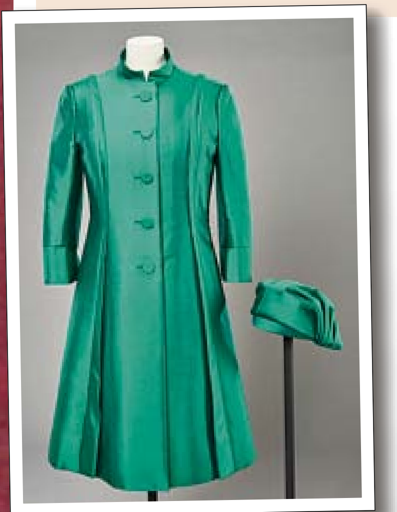
TO MAKE one of the most important visits of her life, the future Queen put on a stylish display when she arrived in South Africa in 1947.

It was on this trip at the age of 21 that she made her famous radio broadcast and promised that her whole life would be devoted to the nation's service and to the service of the Commonwealth.

Incredibly, there is only one item that survives from that tour – a tailored suit that her father, King George VI, played a significant role in creating.

"This is just such an amazing thing, it's such a rare survival," says de Guitaut. "The King himself was involved in approving that Princess Elizabeth's suit could have proper naval buttons stitched to it. He said they must be removed afterwards but clearly that never happened because they're still sewn on to the suit."





DAY DRESS AND COAT, NORMAN HARTNELL, 1970S

TO HELP bring to life Elizabeth's mantra, "I have to be seen to be believed," she was often dressed in bold, colour-blocked outfits to easily identify her in a crowd.

This eye-catching dress, which she wore on a visit to Hillsborough Castle in Belfast during her 1977 Silver Jubilee tour of the UK, exemplifies her influence over her creations.

"The coat itself is made from a fantastic material called silk saran, a type of stiff, silk fabric," says de Guitaut.

"It really holds its shape. There's absolutely no possibility of it creasing, which is really important when the Queen appears... everything has to be perfect.

"She was very involved in making these choices and would note anything that she knew wouldn't work on a sketch and return it to the designer for alterations."

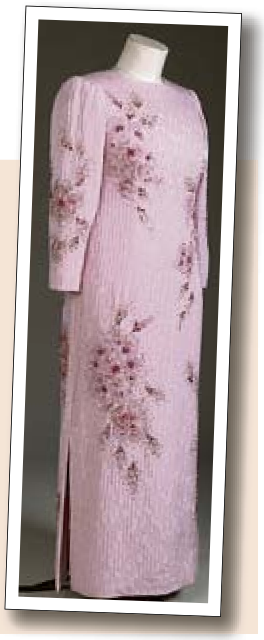
PINK PEONIES EVENING DRESS, IAN THOMAS, 1986

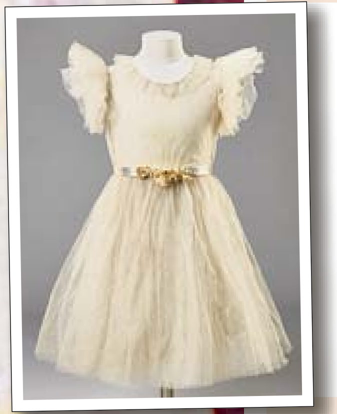
IN KEEPING with her desire to respect other countries' customs, Elizabeth wore this pink dress featuring Chinese tree peonies – a revered symbol of prosperity in Chinese art and culture – when she became the first British monarch to visit the country in 1986.

"She took great care to ensure that she had all the necessary information readily available to supply to the media through her press office during her travels," says de Guitaut. "The couturiers' sketches would be asked to include information about the dress, its fabrics and inspiration.

"Thomas attached a swatch of the proposed fabric for the Queen to see. Designers often attached an embroidery sample to their sketches, so she could understand the materials and how they would feel.

"The embroideries can sometimes be quite weighty, and comfort is as important as anything else."





BRIDESMAID'S DRESS, EDWARD MOLYNEUX, 1934

PRINCESS Elizabeth wore this silver, short-sleeved lamé bridesmaid's dress to the wedding of her uncle, Prince George, Duke of Kent. He married Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark in November 1934 at Westminster Abbey.

The couple were supported by eight bridesmaids, including the future Queen, then aged eight.

"The dress says a great deal about the establishment of British couture in the 1940s, or London couture specifically," says de Guitaut. "From the early 1940s onwards, London could rival anything that Paris could produce in terms of couture, and you had these great figures like Edward Molyneux.

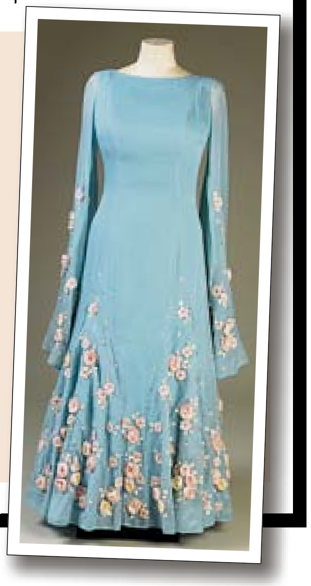
"It enables us to position him as the key figure in the story, and it's the first truly couture piece she wore."

CHERRY BLOSSOM EVENING DRESS, NORMAN HARTNELL, 1975

THIS chic gown is another example of Elizabeth's talent for paying subtle tributes to the countries she visited, as she did in 1975 when she became the first reigning British monarch to visit Japan.

"It's an excellent example of how to dress for diplomacy as it has a soft outline using silk chiffon instead of silk, which allowed Hartnell to illustrate that 1970s silhouette," says de Guitaut. "We have other pieces in the exhibition that feature these soft silk chiffons, often multicoloured, which evoke the swirly-whirly kind of crazy patterning of the Seventies. It's fashionable as it utilises those materials and that silhouette.

"The long, draped sleeves are noticeably similar to those on a kimono. Hartnell has incorporated the essence of traditional Japanese clothing into an evening state dress."



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EXPRESS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

‘Judah calls wheelchair his racing car because that’s what it feels like for him’

Whizz Kidz chair has been a huge gift for ‘racing driver’ Judah after years in buggy

BY **HANNA GEISSLER** Health Editor

JUDAH Bendayan has been given the chance of a near-normal childhood after getting a wheelchair that liberated him from his baby buggy.

The five-year-old, who has limited use of his legs, only qualified for a basic NHS chair that did not support his posture and was hard to propel.

So Whizz Kidz, the wheelchair charity backed by this year’s Express Christmas appeal, stepped in.

Judah, from Hendon, North West London, calls his new wheels his racing car – and it’s even more special as it is the same colour as dad Nathaniel’s car.

Mum Natalie, 38, said: “Until I came to Whizz Kidz a few months ago, Judah – even at five years old – was in a buggy, the same one he’s had since he was a baby.

“The main difficulty I had was that because he can take some steps with sticks or a walker, he didn’t qualify for the type of chair he needed. But his walking ability is very limited, he fatigues very quickly and his steps are stumbling. It really limited his independence. Having this chair has completely revolutionised what he can and can’t do.”

She was feeling helpless as to how to help Judah when she came across Whizz Kidz by chance. The Express Give the Gift of Childhood appeal has raised more than £100,000 for the children’s wheelchair charity as it faces unprecedented demand and costs. We are keeping it open until mid-January to raise as much money as possible.

Recalling the day Judah picked up his chair, Natalie, who also has daughters Aubrey, nine, and Alice, 11, said: “He was really excited and felt so proud of it. And it’s blue, which is the same colour as his dad’s car.

“He calls it his racing car because that’s what it feels like. It makes me emotional to even think about it.

“I have other kids so I know what childhood looks like when you’re five.

“To have something that enables them to get as close to normal childhood as they can is a huge gift.”

Judah managing to get by on a stroller with Nathaniel, Natalie, Aubrey and Alice

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Watchdog of MPs blasts DWP delays on PIP claims

BY **AINE FOX**

SOME people are waiting more than a year to have their disability benefit claims processed amid “unacceptably poor service levels”, the Commons spending watchdog has found.

Long waiting times have sparked warnings from the influential Public Accounts Committee that people can be pushed into debt and poverty as a result.

In a report published today, the committee said the Department for Work and Pensions had failed to hit its target for new personal independence payment claims being processed, and did not appear to have an “adequate plan” for reducing waits.

The committee said only 51% of claims were processed within the target timeframe of 75 working days in 2024/25, despite the DWP’s aim being to process 75% of new PIP claims within that time.

The report stated: “It is unacceptable how long some PIP claimants are having to wait for their claims to be processed, which can cause them to get into debt and push them into poverty.”

MPs on the committee said they knew of “constituents who have waited a long time for their claims to be processed, in some cases over a year”. But they noted the DWP “acknowledged that it was obviously a genuine situation that it needed to address”. The DWP was asked for comment.

Knifeman bid to kill officer

BY **STANLEY MURPHY**

A MAN has admitted trying to kill a uniformed Army officer outside his barracks in Kent.

Lt Col Mark Teeton was stabbed several times and seriously hurt in Chatham in July 2024.

Anthony Esan, 25, of Rochester, appeared at Maidstone crown court on video-link from Broadmoor hospital yesterday to admit attempted murder and having bladed weapons.

The case was delayed for probes into Esan’s mental health and fitness to plead. He will be sentenced next month.

Lt Col Teeton did not wish to comment after the hearing.

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Former referee spared jail over child sex video

BY **JOSH PAYNE**

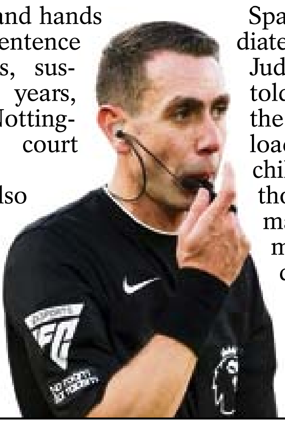
FORMER Premier League referee David Coote has been spared jail after he was found to have a sexual video of a 15-year-old boy in school uniform on his laptop.

Coote, 43, previously admitting making an indecent moving image of a child of the most serious kind, and his sentencing judge said he'd had a "spectacular fall from grace".

Coote's arms and hands trembled as a sentence of nine months, suspended for two years, was passed at Nottingham crown court yesterday.

He was also ordered to carry out 150 hours' unpaid work and was made the subject of a sexual harm prevention order for 10 years. The court heard the clip of the child was found after a separate probe into comments he made about ex-Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp in 2020.

Police seized his electronic devices in February last year, and the video was found on the hard drive of his laptop.



Sparing Coote an immediate prison sentence, Judge Nirmal Shant KC told him videos such as the one he had downloaded "involve a real child being abused", and those viewing such material should bear in mind the "consequent damage that follows from it".

Judge Shant told him: "You were a lonely man. You had a relationship that had broken down recently.

"You had mental health difficulties and you were consuming cocaine, which of course was your choice, but it had a direct effect on your thinking."

Coote's barrister Laura Jane Miller told the court: "He has shown remorse for this offending to the probation service. He said he's deeply ashamed of himself and his actions."

Coote was sacked by Professional Game Match Officials Limited in 2024 after a video of comments he had made about Klopp came to light. In August last year he was given an eight-week suspension by the Football Association over the rant.

Last January Coote came out as gay in an interview with The Sun and said that a lifelong struggle to hide his sexuality had contributed to his Klopp comments.

Coote arrives at court yesterday for sentencing over the video found during a probe over his Klopp comments

Police at the Tate Modern gallery

Man who hurled lad from balcony attacked nurses

BY **TED HENNESSEY**

A MAN who threw a boy of six off a balcony in the Tate Modern has been jailed for 16 weeks for attacking two nurses.

Jonty Bravery was found guilty of assaulting Linda McKinlay and Kate Mastalerz at Broadmoor high-security hospital in September 2024.

They had been trying to stop Bravery from climbing a ledge, Westminster magistrates' court previously heard.

The 24-year-old was serving a life sentence, with a 15-year minimum, for hurling a French boy from the gallery's 10th-storey balcony in 2019.

He fell 100ft and suffered life-changing injuries.

Chief magistrate Paul Goldspring gave him a 16-week sentence for the Broadmoor assault. He added it is very unlikely he will be deemed safe for release at the end of his 15-year term.

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JUST follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row. Set your own 30-second challenge. For the very young or arithmetically rusty, you have 30 seconds for the BEGINNER task.

For a greater challenge, try BEGINNER and INTERMEDIATE in 30 seconds. True mental gymnasts should try INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED in 30 seconds together.

Today's answers can be found in the puzzles pullout

										YOUR ANSWERS
Beginner	6	SQUARE IT	+54	2/5 OF THIS	-19	x3	+15	2/3 OF THIS	÷11	
Intermediate	246	-58	75% OF THIS	x2	-49	REVERSE THE DIGITS	3/4 OF THIS	+38	÷7	
Advanced	6	CUBE IT	3/4 OF IT	+48	÷5	-8	x13	REVERSE THE DIGITS	÷4	

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
SET FOR LIFE 13 17 26 29 46 4

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
LOTTERY 3 9 20 33 45 50 12
THUNDERBALL 1 10 13 26 38 6

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
EUROMILLIONS
5 14 17 18 31 10 12
THUNDERBALL
1 2 16 22 30 4

THE HEALTH LOTTERY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
14 20 30 37 43 4

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
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PHONE POLL RESULTS

We asked in our poll on Wednesday:
Will sticking to EU rules save money for British consumers and companies?

YES: 2%

NO: 98%

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7	9	2	8	6				
		3		5		2		8
	5	4			2		9	7
9				1			7	
	1	7		8		5		
	2				3			9
			3			4	1	
6		1		4		9		
				2	1	7	3	5

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MORE PUZZLES – PULLOUT

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

3	8	2	5	7	6	4	9	1
4	7	6	9	8	1	2	5	3
5	9	1	3	4	2	7	6	8
8	5	3	7	6	4	9	1	2
9	2	4	8	1	5	3	7	6
6	1	7	2	3	9	8	4	5
2	3	9	1	5	7	6	8	4
7	6	5	4	2	8	1	3	9
1	4	8	6	9	3	5	2	7

Penny Ballinger with her homemade bear sign at the side of the road by her property in Gloucestershire

Road sign creator just can't bear this traffic

BY **LAUREN BEAVIS**

A WOMAN whose home has been hit by three cars in four years has put up homemade "bear warning" signs to slow drivers.

Penny Ballinger, 68, said her house and garden have been repeatedly damaged by vehicle smashes.

She said she has asked for the 40mph speed limit to be reduced to 30mph, but with no joy.

So creative Penny, of the Forest of Dean, Glos, has made "bears crossing" road signs and put them up outside. She said: "I will stand out there with a bear forever to get this issue sorted! The route is where people take their kids to school.

"We're very lucky a parent and child haven't been killed. Will it take a fatality to do something about it?"

Penny chose bears in reference to a reported incident from 1889. Two circus bears were allegedly killed by locals, many of whom were controversially convicted.

Penny said: "The most important thing is getting the road safety. But, much like the bear incident, no one seems to be talking about it."

A Gloucestershire County Council spokesman said: "The road does not meet current criteria for a speed reduction, but please be assured we are paying close attention to the situation, which we appreciate is frustrating for residents."

Love the secret ingredient for sweet hearts

Jammie Dodger makers Colin and Jenny have everything their hearts desire

COLIN and Jenny Smith have tasted 25 years of wedded bliss – after meeting at the Jammie Dodgers factory.

Their eyes met over the conveyor belt in 1991 and they married in 2001, going on to have a son and daughter.

And all the while they have continued working at the Burton's plant in Llantarnam, Cwmbran, South Wales.

Jenny, 62, said they first clicked when she was tasked with quality control on the biscuit lines: "I used to look forward to my chats with Colin, so much so that I used to time my weight checks to when I knew he was working on the line!

"Our first date was at an Italian in Cardiff. We probably chatted about work and the Jammie Dodgers!" Colin, 55, added: "A lot of couples probably wouldn't enjoy working together, but we love it."

Jenny appeared on Tuesday's Inside the Factory on BBC1, available on iPlayer.

Calls to rescue neglected lynx from warzone

BY **EMILY WRIGHT**

AN URGENT appeal has been launched to save a young lynx in war-torn Ukraine and bring her to safety in the UK.

The Big Cat Sanctuary, based in Ashford, Kent, hopes to rescue Ursa, a female Eurasian lynx.

It is calling on the public to help fund the rescue and care of Ursa, who was found living in appalling conditions after being illegally kept as a pet.

Now housed at a rescue centre on the outskirts of Kyiv, Ursa remains in danger as bombs continue to fall nearby.

Born in 2023, Ursa's early life was marked by neglect and illegality. Discovered as a kitten by the organisation URSA, after whom she was later named, she was being kept by someone in their home before the police intervened.

Ursa, *inset*, was then transferred to the Wild Animal Rescue Center, where she is receiving care. She had a severe intestinal infection and critically, due to poor nutrition, she remains significantly smaller than a lynx of her age should be.

Having been hand-raised by humans and lacking size and the skills to defend herself, experts say Ursa could never survive in the wild.

The BCS's six-day rescue mission will include navigating the war zone, managing international logistics, veterinary requirements and permits, and, finally, providing Ursa with a secure habitat within its new Small Cat Rescue Centre. The BCS needs to raise at least £100,000. Any funds beyond this will support her long-term care and help to rescue other animals.

Director Cam Whitnall said that as donations begin to pour in, preparations are under way.

"We're already moving on the paperwork and improving the Small Cat Rescue Centre here, where she'll live with other lynxes."

In 2024, Cam helped to rescue five lions from Ukraine backed by public support for the Big Cats in Crisis campaign. To donate to Ursa's rescue mission, please visit thebigcatsanctuary.org.

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SUNDAY: TRAVEL, GARDENING & REVIEWS

TALES FROM THE SET

Stepping out of the Bard's shadow at last with acts of love

Edited by **KATHRYN CRAVEN**

For such a prominent figure in literary history, we don't really know much about the private life of William Shakespeare, the central character in this week's big release, Hamnet. The film adaptation of Maggie O'Farrell's bestselling 2020 novel, co-written and directed by Oscar winner Chloe Zhao and starring Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal, explores the grief Shakespeare and his wife Agnes experienced after their son, Hamnet, dies and how it inspired his play, Hamlet.

Jessie, 36, nominated for a Golden Globe for her role, relished the opportunity to coax Agnes out of the Bard's shadow.

She said: "None of us really know who Shakespeare was. What catalysed Maggie to write this novel was a desire to reclaim a story that had been misrepresented. What's been written in history feels frosty and archaic.

"You only have to look at his plays to recognise that he must have known and loved a great woman at some point in his life."

> *None of us really know who Shakespeare was*

In order to work on Shakespeare and Agnes' onscreen chemistry, director Zhao even sent Jessie and Paul on a tantric workshop that Jessie told ELLE magazine helped build up a "kinetic trust" between them.

So how did she find working with the actor, who shot to fame on 2020's Normal People?

"Sometimes you just have great chemistry with somebody on set, which allowed us to go wherever we needed to go. As friends, we knew we could hold all of that and we did. And more than any male co-star I've had, it was the fullest version of what that was."

Hamnet is in cinemas now

SURVIVOR *Ralph Fiennes*

COMING SOON

Hot on the heels of 28 Years Later comes the fourth movie in the post-apocalyptic franchise by writer Alex Garland and director Danny Boyle. Starring Ralph Fiennes, Jack O'Connell, Alfie Williams and Chi Lewis-Parry, The Bone Temple takes place directly after the last film, 28 years after the rage virus devastated the population. In cinemas January 16.

SHOPPING & REVIEWS

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PLUS Horoscopes
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BARD NEWS *Jessie Buckley stars in Hamnet*

FILM YOUR NEXT WATCH

With **DAMON SMITH**

> *'Buckley's performance is towering... Only an injustice should deny her the Academy Award for best actress'* - **HAMNET**

STAR RATINGS
★★★★★ Excellent
★★★★ Good
★★★ Worth a look
★★ Poor
★ Don't bother

POWERFUL
Buckley as Agnes, centre, Mescal, above

SHAKESPEAREAN TRAGEDY

HAMNET

CERT 12A ★★★★★

In Julius Caesar, William Shakespeare counsels the audience to embrace life without fear: "Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once." Here, the Bard of Stratford-upon-Avon heeds his own iambic pentameter in director Chloé Zhao's exquisitely moving drama, adapted for screen by Zhao and author Maggie O'Farrell from her novel about Shakespeare's descent into grief with wife Agnes after the death of their beloved 11-year-old son.

The picture opens in pastoral bliss with Shakespeare (Paul Mescal) falling under the spell of Agnes Hathaway (Jessie Buckley), rumoured to be the daughter of a forest witch. "I would rather you went to sea than marry this wench," spits William's disapproving mother, Mary (Emily Watson).

Regardless, the couple raise a family comprising daughter Susanna (Bodhi Rae Breathnach) and twins Judith (Olivia Lynes) and Hamnet (Jacobi Jupe). When William is working in London, bubonic plague ravages the household. Heartbreaking loss divides William and his wife, and the playwright channels emotions on to parchment as he prepares to stage the tragedy of a Danish prince driven to madness by his father's ghost.

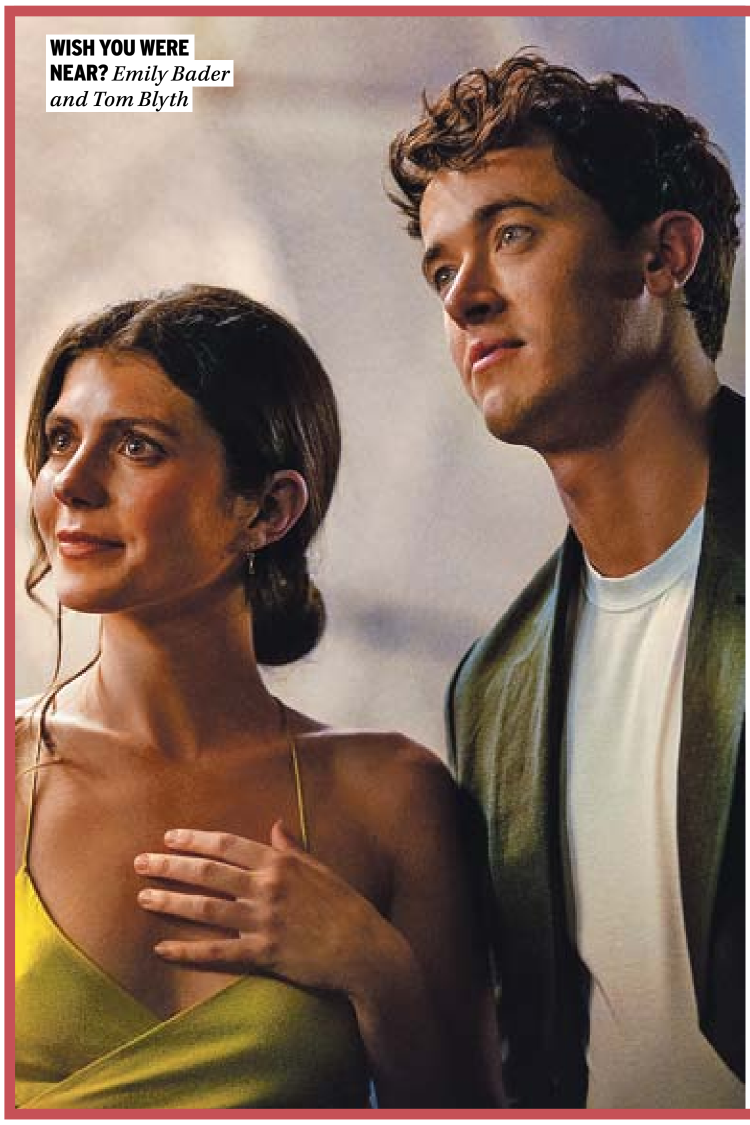
Hamnet is a bewitching and bountiful banquet, combining earthy colours of Lukasz Zal's cinematography, heartrending dialogue from O'Farrell's novel, impeccable production design and composer Max Richter's elegiac electronic score derived from the sounds of Elizabethan-period instruments.

Buckley's performance is towering. The guttural scream that emanates from Agnes' body when Hamnet takes his final breath in her arms, after various herbal potions fail to loosen death's tightening grip, pierces like a dagger.

Mescal is quieter though no less compelling as a father robbed of an opportunity to say goodbye to his boy. His anguish drip-feeds into an shattering and cathartic final 10 minutes that director Zhao orchestrates with sensitivity, aided by an impeccable supporting turn from Jupe's older brother Noah.

On the stage of the Globe Theatre, there is something rotten in the state of Denmark, but Zhao's film is fragrant and intoxicating perfection.

In cinemas now



WISH YOU WERE NEAR? *Emily Bader and Tom Blyth*

PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION

CERT 12 ★★★

On holiday, you can kick sand in the face of guilt and consequences and do anything – or anyone – you want. So says the self-deluding heroine of director Brett Haley's frothy romantic comedy adapted from Emily Henry's bestselling novel, which was rechristened You And Me On Vacation for publication on this side of the Atlantic.

Free-spirited travel writer Poppy Wright (Emily Bader) has lost the spark that elevated her above other contributors to R&R magazine in New York.

"Make me burn with jealousy for your hot jet-setting life," implores her editor Swapna (Jameela Jamil). An invitation to the Barcelona nuptials of David (Miles Heizer) and his partner Nam (Tommy Do) inspires Poppy to rebuild bridges with her estranged best friend, David's brother Alex (Tom Blyth), who's just broken up with his girlfriend (Sarah Catherine Hook).

Flashbacks to Poppy and Alex's annual summer getaways reveal their complicated feelings for each other and an ill-fated Tuscan odyssey two years ago that changed everything.

People We Meet On Vacation leans in heavily to the well-worn and trusted trope of best friends who are perfect for each other.

Bader and Blyth work hard to sell cheesier moments of a gently paced script co-written by Yulin Kuang, Amos Vernon and Nunzio Randazzo, which serves up gratuitous nudity when an impromptu night-time skinny-dip goes awry.

Alan Ruck and Molly Shannon elicit giggles with a fleeting appearance as Poppy's hug-forward parents. Not quite feel-great, Haley's carefree confection travels comfortably from well-thumbed page to screen with a sub-two-hour flight time.

On Netflix now

DELIVERING A REAL PUNCH

STAR MAKERS *Amir El-Masry, Toby Stephens and Pierce Brosnan*

GIANT

CERT 15 ★★★

Sylvester Stallone is an executive producer of writer-director Rowan Athale's lightweight biographical drama about the rise of Prince Naseem Hamed, glimpsed though the eyes of the boxer's garrulous trainer, Dublin-born former professional fighter Brendan Ingle.

In 1981 Sheffield, Yemeni shop owner Caira Hamed (Elika Ashoori) enrols her three boys at a boxing gym and trainer Brendan (Pierce Brosnan) gravitates towards the youngest, seven-year-old Naseem (Ghaith Saleh).

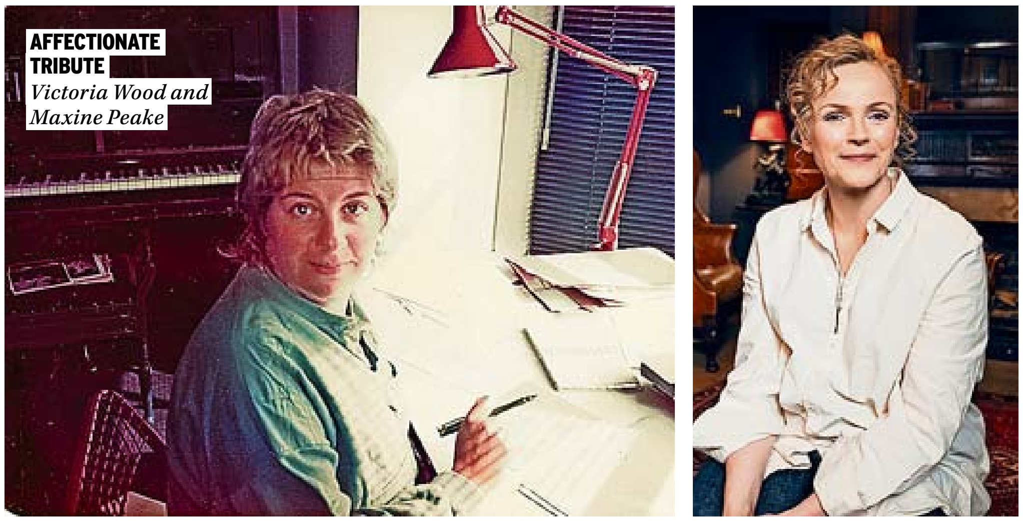
The youngster blossoms (played later by Ali Saleh and Amir El-Masry) and Brendan stokes his protege's self-confidence to prepare him for glory in the ring: "If you climb close enough to the sun, you'll cast the shadow of a giant."

When promoter Frank Warren (Toby Stephens) propels Naseem into the big leagues, fissures deepen in Brendan's relationship with his talent.

Giant is a robust and conventional sporting biopic that venerates Brendan's role, especially when it comes to moulding young minds at his gym. Brosnan exudes warmth and resilience as the inspirational mentor while El-Masry mimics Naseem's exuberant physicality with aplomb – but Athale's script doesn't delve deeply into the psychological meat of the surrogate father-son dynamic. Dramatic licence in the closing act attempts to paper over these visible cracks.

Athale ducks and dives in the opening minutes with a stylish black and white slow-motion sequence that nods to his inspirations (Raging Bull, Rocky). Those Oscar-winning heavyweights are far beyond the reach of Giant's energetic jabs but Athale's modest picture stays on its feet.

In cinemas now



AFFECTIONATE TRIBUTE *Victoria Wood and Maxine Peake*

BECOMING VICTORIA WOOD

CERT 15 ★★★★

I was fortunate to see Victoria Wood twice on stage: in 2001 at the Royal Albert Hall on her final solo stand-up tour and in 2005 at the Theatre Royal Haymarket for a matinee performance of Acorn Antiques: The Musical. She replaced Julie Walters as Mrs Overall. On both occasions, she was in uproarious form.

Catherine Abbott's feature-length documentary pays tribute to the beloved Lancashire actress, writer and comedian ahead of the 10th anniversary of her death. Rarely seen archive footage and previously unheard audio shed light on her creative process intercut with actor Jessica Barden narrating quotes and excerpts of writing including a 1967 article for Bury Grammar School magazine.

"All I ever wanted to do was be funny. That was my ambition," warmly confesses Wood. She succeeded in barnstorming fashion, achieving recording-breaking residencies on stage and a string of small screen hits including As Seen On TV, Dinnerladies, Pat And Margaret and Wood And Walters.

School friends recall her being incredibly shy, "scruffy and not very conformist" while celebrity pals Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders, Maxine Peake and Joan Armatrading wax lyrical about Wood as a pioneer and how she gradually shed her self-pity. Michael Ball suggests her work was "achingly funny because it's rooted in honesty" and archive clips juxtapose reminiscences of a lonely childhood with autobiographical songs.

Abbott's doc made me tearfully nostalgic for a trailblazer with a self-confessed "serious streak of ambition" who quietly shattered glass ceilings. Shards fell on Wood so others could tread comfortably.

In cinemas now and on U&Gold in February

BORDERLINE

CERT 15 ★★★

Life continues to be zanier than fiction for screenwriter Jimmy Warden, who drew inspiration from a real-life case of discarded narcotics in the wild for his script to the bonkers comedy horror Cocaine Bear.

Borderline shares its title with Madonna's 1984 hit single and this unhinged, genre-melding descent into madness, which Warden also directs, nods to the headline-grabbing 1996 case of Robert Dewey Hoskins, who served a 10-year prison sentence for stalking and threatening the material girl. The filmmaker casts his wife Samara Weaving as singer and actress Sofia, who is terrorised by crazed fan Paul Duerson (Ray Nicholson) in her 1990s Los Angeles home.

First, Paul breaks in and stabs Sofia's trusty bodyguard Bell (Eric Dane), who blocks a path to hallucinated marital bliss with the pop starlet.

Six months later, Bell has barely recovered from his injuries when Paul escapes from a secure psychiatric facility with fellow misfits Penny (Alba Baptista) and JH Calhoun (Patrick Cox). They head to Sofia's mansion to prize her away from her basketball player boyfriend (Jimmie Falls) and Paul's psychosis lights a fuse on escalating violence.

Borderline steadfastly refuses to stick to one genre lane, swerving wildly between home invasion thriller, gnarly black comedy and gruesome slasher.

The wheels occasionally come off Warden's runaway train of thought but there is a pulse-quickening unpredictability to the writer-director's off-kilter vision.

A niggling voice urges to look away but ghoulish fascination compels us to keep watching.

GHOULISH *Nicholson and Weaving*

On Now/Sky Cinema from tomorrow

BOOKS

YOUR NEXT READ

With **HANNAH STEPHENSON**

AUTHOR OF THE WEEK

Maggie O'Farrell

The prize-winning novelist reveals she loved being a co-screenwriter for new movie Hamnet

The world of movies is far removed from her normal life as a novelist, but Maggie O'Farrell is clearly relishing the opportunity she had to bring her characters to the big screen as co-screenwriter for Oscar-tipped Hamnet. It's a story of love, loss and grief, imagining the impact of the death of Shakespeare's 11-year-old son on him and, more specifically, on his wife, Agnes, and how grief inspired the playwright's timeless masterpiece, Hamlet. It stars Paul Mescal and Jessie Buckley as the grieving parents.

The Irish writer, 53, co-wrote the screenplay with the film's director, Chloe Zhao (who won an Oscar for Nomadland), and watched in awe as the actors worked their magic on set.

"The book feels like my baby and the film feels more like a niece or nephew for me. It's very closely related but it's actually someone else's responsibility in a way."

What does O'Farrell think is the secret of a good screen adaptation?

"I think to preserve the themes and concerns of the book is probably important, but not necessarily slavishly sticking to everything about the book, because you can't really.

"To make a book, which takes you about eight or nine hours to read, and bring it down to a screenplay, you have to lose a lot. You have to make sure that all those losses don't feel jarring on the screenplay."

Over the years there have been both good and bad screen versions of terrific books and this year there is no shortage of film adaptations with even greater expectations.

Big-screen versions of Wuthering Heights, The Odyssey and Dune: Part Three are set for 2026, but won't be released in time for Oscar consideration until 2027. Good collaboration is key to a successful film project, says O'Farrell. And despite co-screenwriters being in different time zones most of the time (Zhao in California, O'Farrell in Edinburgh), and communicating by voice note, it just worked.

"I learned a huge amount from Chloe. Obviously Chloe and I wrote the script together but she has an enormous amount of experience in bringing stories to the screen.

"It felt in some ways that it uses completely different muscles to create a screenplay than it does to writing fiction.

"But in other ways it's very similar. I mean, a sentence is still a sentence and grammar is still grammar. There wasn't one draft that was hers and one that was mine. As we created a scene, we passed it back and forth. What I learned from her is the economy of screenwriting."

The main theme of Hamnet is grief and O'Farrell recalls: "When I was writing Hamnet (which was published in 2020), I was thinking really carefully about what grief is and how actually it's the other side of love.

"It's love turned inside out on itself. If you love someone a huge amount, a huge part of that love for them is fear you might lose them, what your life would be like without them.

"I have a son and two daughters, as the Shakespeares did, so I always knew that when I wrote the book that my feelings towards my children would come into it."

The prize-winning novelist, who is married to author William Sutcliffe, loves the cinema and she and Zhao talked a lot about movies before they started work on the screenplay, with Zhao advising her to watch films to think about the way the narrative was constructed.

"In terms of adaptations, I think The Unbearable Lightness Of Being is very good."

But she stresses that the book remains hers and the film is Zhao's.

THE SUNDAY TIMES NO.1 BESTSELLER
HAMNET
MAGGIE O'FARRELL
NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

INSPIRED *O'Farrell would love to do more adaptations*

"That feels absolutely right and exactly as it should be to me. There would be no point in making a film that was an exact replica of a book, because the book already exists.

"Readers interact with a narrative on the page very differently from the way a cinema audience interacts with a narrative on screen.

"Yes, it seems absolutely right and good that the film sits alongside the book, rather than as a replica of it."

She'd love to do more adaptations.

"Having worked on this one, which was such a positive experience, I think I realised that the nature of collaboration is so important and that you have to gel with those personalities and share a vision for what it is you are trying to achieve.

"So I would only do it if I had a similar good relationship with collaborators and it was the right story."

While some authors have appeared in cameo roles in the film adaptations of their books – Stephen King, Lee Child, Stephenie Meyer and even Jaws author Peter Benchley, who appeared as a news reporter on the beach – it's something that fills O'Farrell with horror.

"There was one point where they asked me if I wanted a cameo (as an extra in the Globe scenes) and I was so horrified because I'm definitely much more comfortable on the other side of the camera."

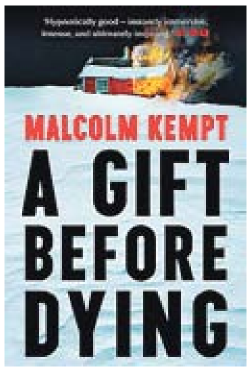
When the Hamnet hype has all calmed down, life will return to normal, O'Farrell expects. She has a new historical novel, Land, coming out in June.

"I'll just go back to what I'm normally doing, hanging out with my cats in my studio, writing a book and making dinner for my kids – and I'm really happy with that."

Hamnet is in cinemas now. The book, with its new film tie-in cover, is out now (Tinder Press, £10.99, paperback)

FOUR NEW BOOKS TO READ THIS WEEK

BY MATT NIXSON AND JON COATES



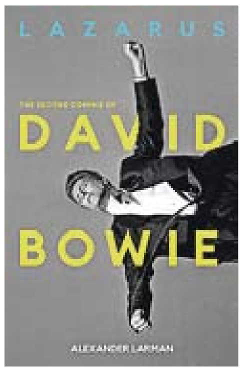
A GIFT BEFORE DYING

BY MALCOLM KEMPT, HARDBACK, £22

After a botched high-profile murder investigation, Elderick Cole is exiled to the remote Arctic north of Canada where the once nomadic Inuit people struggle to adapt to the modern world.

When he finds the hanging body of Pitseolala, a troubled Inuit girl he had sworn to protect, Cole works with her younger brother Maliktu, a fellow outsider, to find redemption by tracking down a killer preying on children.

This gripping debut is hypnotic in plunging the reader into the vast frigid expanse of the Arctic Circle and the brutal reality of its Inuit population who are plagued by addiction and domestic violence. A harrowing but ultimately life-affirming read, it's hard to believe this is a debut novel. 9/10

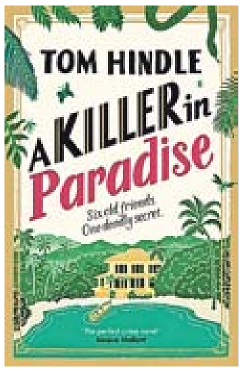


LAZARUS: THE SECOND COMING OF DAVID BOWIE

BY ALEXANDER LARMAN, HARDBACK, £25

Even the greatest fan – and Alexander Larman is up there having named his daughter Rose Evelyn Bowie – would struggle to celebrate much of the Starman's uninspiring 80s output. Commercially and critically stuck, Bowie's alt-rock band Tin Machine was largely turgid, while solo albums failed repeatedly to catch fire.

Yet by the time of his tragically early death aged 69 in January 2016, he was revered as one of our greatest stars. Just how he reinvented himself is the subject of Larman's brilliant new biography. This is Bowie at his best – and worst. Told with a fan's eye but a critic's judgment, Lazarus is essential reading; an early contender for music book of the year. 10/10



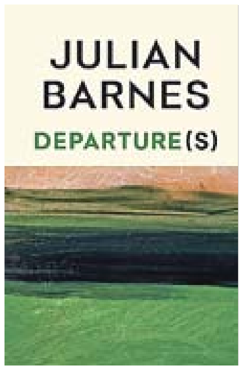
A KILLER IN PARADISE

BY TOM HINDLE, HARDBACK, £18.99

When five friends are invited to a luxury eco-lodge in the Costa Rican rainforest by a hotel heiress they went to university with but haven't seen for a decade, they jump at the chance.

But their week in paradise soon takes something of a sinister turn when a body is discovered during its launch party and it then becomes clear one of their group is responsible.

As old rivalries are brought to the surface and long-held secrets become exposed, the author delivers a series of very clever bluffs and double bluffs which will keep readers guessing until the killer is finally unmasked in this classy murder mystery in a glorious setting. 8/10



DEPARTURE(S)

BY JULIAN BARNES, HARDBACK, £18.99

Booker Prize winner Julian Barnes approaches his 80th birthday this month secure in his position as one of our finest writers. And Departure(s) can only polish his reputation.

As ever, Barnes' themes are simultaneously big and small, playful and poignant – love, loss, memory and mortality – gently building to a thought-provoking crescendo. Also as ever, the lines between fiction and reality are subtle.

Narrator Julian is an elderly author living with a rare blood disorder. In a story within the story, he recalls friends Stephen and Jean who fall in love twice – once when they are young and again when they are old. Only Barnes knows what's truly real. The rest of us can just enjoy the ride. 9/10

PODCASTS NOW HEAR THIS

With **KAY HARRISON**

PODCAST OF THE WEEK

A NEW AND IMPROVED FLAVOUR OF JAMIE AT 50

audible ORIGINAL
RESET YOUR HEALTH
with Jamie Oliver
THE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Emira

EXTRA SERVING *Jamie Oliver, and above with wife Jools*

RESET YOUR HEALTH WITH JAMIE OLIVER

Jamie Oliver is a man with fingers in many pies and here's a new one for him – his very first podcast, oven-ready for the new-year-new-me health push.

He's quizzing learned, cheery types on health and happiness for this six-part Audible Original, and it's not just what we should be putting in our mouths, there's lifestyle and wellbeing hacks too, with a peppering of revelations. Like Jamie's sleep struggles, and what finally stopped his terrifying, recurring dream that saw him, um, running through a field of basil, parsley and tarragon... nude. Don't think the Beeb would have signed off that version of The Naked Chef.

The series opener on gut health is a path well-trodden, with microbiome love and why fibre is the "Clark Kent of the food world". The pace picks up, with an episode on our appetites with Professor Giles Yeo, obesity expert at Cambridge University, with much to learn on how we should eat, with nutrition professor at King's College London, Sarah Berry.

Useful stuff on comfort eating – a third of us are snacking after 9pm – and "eating windows" too. Sounds crunchy but it's actually when you should fast for the best benefits, and "naturally greedy" Jamie reveals he gets by on one meal a day, one day a week.

The typical UK diet is still pretty rubbish and there's lots of inspiration and achievable goals suggested here, but it's not preachy, bish-bash-boshy or rammed down your throat (shopping list strategies, why you should fidget after lunch, the power of taking a pineapple to bed). Jamie seems calmer and more fully formed – reset, even – and reflective, having turned 50 and wanting to create more opportunities for happiness.

Snippets from wife of 25 years, Jools, too, with talk of their dinner times with kids who have ADHD, plus a sweet, dewy-eyed moment with Jamie's parents, now in their 70s, who discuss pride, getting older, regrets and beans.

He saves the best until last with a joyful episode featuring Professor Rose Anne Kenny, Regius Professor of Medicine at Trinity College Dublin, who's a leading authority on ageing.

Seems we're never too old to rewind the clock, and shared laughter, old-fashioned values and cooking for others are all positives.

A new you might not be too hard to achieve after all.

I REST MY CASE

I REST MY CASE
with Jonathan Goldberg KC and Dean Strang

Defence attorney Dean Strang became an unlikely hero and heartthrob in 2015 in Netflix mega-hit Making A Murderer.

He's back stirring up more feelings in this new true-crime podcast, dissecting current headlines and old cases from the UK and US, shedding light on the trials, tactics and wonky justice systems. There for the weighty discussion, analysis and UK perspective is trial lawyer Jonathan Goldberg KC, who's defended in more than 100 murder trials in the UK, and did his best to keep Charlie Kray out of prison.

They start with Minneapolis cop Derek Chauvin, and the murder of George Floyd, with more to come on Kevin Spacey, Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell.

And they answer the big question: how can you defend someone you believe is guilty? Pay cheque, perhaps?

THE TRAITORS UNCLOAKED

BBC
THE TRAITORS: UNCLOAKED

It's all coming to a head on the twistiest ever Traitors, and you can stoke your obsession and sustain yourself between episodes with this accompanying British Podcast Award winner.

Comedian Ed Gamble is rounding up former castle dwellers, superfans and the latest players from series four for inside gossip. And Celebrity Traitors, too, quizzing the likes of Lucy Beaumont, Cat Burns and Joe Marler ("I'm just the hairy guys from The Traitors now... I shouldn't have bothered with the 17-year rugby career") about lies, highs and daily back-stabbing.

There's advice for the afterlife, with Tom and Alex from series one giving tips to faithfuls and traitors on overnight fame.

More than 300,000 applied to be on this series and you'll learn a lot here if you fancy joining Claudia for her breakfast buffet.

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Wireless operation range up to 130m
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The Lifemax Video Door Phone offers a convenient, secure way to monitor your front door. With full-colour video and wire-free technology, it allows you to clearly see and communicate with visitors in real-time. It also captures photos of the last 20 visitors, so you always know who stopped by while you were away. The system's wireless range extends up to 130 metres, eliminating the need for a separate Wi-Fi connection.

Equipped with a 2.4 GHz digital system, it delivers clear audio and video, while the built-in night vision ensures reliable performance day or night. The receiver comes with a charging dock for easy maintenance. The Lifemax Video Door Phone combines ease of use, security, and modern technology to provide peace of mind and convenience at home.

- ✓ Full-colour high-definition video display
- ✓ Wireless operation range up to 130m
- ✓ Last 20 visitor photos
- ✓ Built-in night vision
- ✓ Charging dock

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world's most luxury scented toilet paper
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Make every bathroom visit more luxurious and enjoyable with Splesh Luna Bloom luxury scented 3-ply toilet tissue. This bulk pack of 72 rolls keeps you well stocked with softness and quality that lasts. Each roll is quilted with micro-impressions for a cushioned feel, while the 3-ply design delivers strength and maximum absorption. Made with a touch of cotton, the paper feels smooth and gentle against skin. Lightly scented, Luna Bloom brings a fresh, subtle fragrance to your bathroom. Strong yet soft, each sheet is both practical and indulgent, turning one of life's essentials into a touch of everyday luxury. A thoughtful choice for your home, every roll offers the perfect blend of comfort, quality and freshness.

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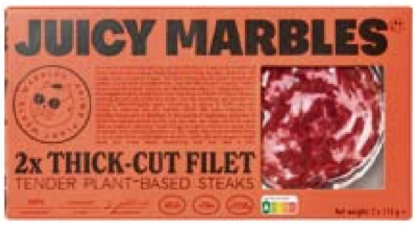
CASH QUEEN BE A SAVVY SHOPPER

Edited by **LAURETTE ZEIMER**

A helping hand for mealtimes

VEGAN


JUICY MARBLES
2x THICK-CUT FILET
TENDER PLANT-BASED STEAKS

JUICY MARBLES 2 THICK-CUT FILLET PLANT-BASED STEAKS (2X113G), *Morrisons, was £8, now £6.40*
SAVE: £1.60

LA VIE
PLANT-BASED HAM
SMOKED
VEGAN
HIGH IN PROTEIN
100G

LA VIE PLANT-BASED HAM (100G), *Sainsbury's, £3. Buy 3 get cheapest free with Nectar*
SAVE: £3

NO MEAT
NO CHICK PIECES

THE NO MEAT COMPANY NO CHICK PIECES *(300g), Iceland, £2.50, 2 for £4*
SAVE: £1

THE TOFOO Co.
NAKED XL

THE TOFOO CO EXTRA FIRM ORGANIC TOFU *(450g), Tesco, £3.50, £2.80 with Clubcard*
SAVE: 70p

LA FAUXMAGERIE
Brixton Blue
FUNKY PUNGENT PIQUANT

LA FAUXMAGERIE BRIXTON BLUE VEGAN CHEESE (100G), *Waitrose, was £5.50, now £4.40*
SAVE: £1.10

ONE PLANET PIZZA
OUT OF THIS WORLD PLANT-BASED SOURDOUGH PEPPERNOMI

ONE PLANET PIZZA PLANT-BASED PEPPERONI (310G), *Asda, was £3.97, now £2.47*
SAVE: £1.50

M&S FOOD
SUPER NUTTY WHOLEFOOD
WITH A ZINGY SOY & GINGER DRESSING

M&S SUPER NUTTY WHOLEFOOD SALAD (200G), *Ocado, £3, 3 for £7.50*
SAVE: £1.50

TAKE 5... PRETTY IN PINK

1 **Stanley IceFlow Stainless Steel Tumbler (890ml)**
£43, John Lewis
BEST FOR… cold drinks

2 **Cotton Rich Cropped Jumper**
£20, Marks & Spencer
BEST FOR… warmth

3 **Splash Toddler Light-Up Wellies**
£12.99, Mountain Warehouse
BEST FOR… puddles

4 **Hamilton Beach Pink Miami Kettle and Toaster Set**
£50, Next
BEST FOR… breakfast

5 **Bijou Pink Wine Glasses Set (2)**
£19.50, Oliver Bonas
BEST FOR… wine o'clock

BUDGET OR BUST: JUICERS

SAVVY

Cookworks Juicer
£35, Argos

SPEND

Quest Cold Press Slow Juicer
£40.99, Robert Dyas

SPLURGE

Kitchen Pro Innoteck 3 in 1 Juicer
£79.99, The Range

If you're trying your hand at Veganuary, or Veggie-January, or looking to shed a few of those pesky pounds you gained over the festive period, there are some great ways to stock up your fridge and cupboards without blowing the household budget. Here are 21 ideas to get you started...

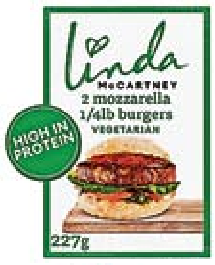
VEGGIE

4 CHEESE & ONION CRISPBAKES (454G),
Iceland, £2.50, 2 for £4
SAVE: £1

MEAL FOR ONE VEGETABLE LASAGNE (400G),
Asda, £3.32, 3 for £8.50
SAVE: £1.46

M&S MACARONI CHEESE (400G),
Ocado, £4, 3 for £10
SAVE: £2

MERCHANT GOURMET RED & WHITE QUINOA (250G),
Tesco, £2.15, £1.50 with Clubcard
SAVE: 65p



LINDA MCCARTNEY'S VEGETARIAN MOZZARELLA 1/4LB BURGERS (227G),
Morrisons, was £2.50, now £2
SAVE: 50p

POLLEN & GRACE MEDITERRANEAN VEGETABLE & OLIVE NOURISH BOWL (400G),
Waitrose, was £4.95, now £3.96
SAVE: 99p

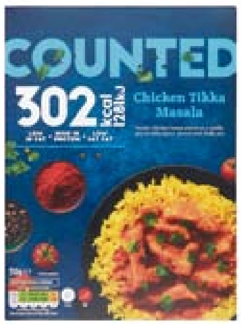
VEGETABLE BIRYANI WITH RICE (400G),
Sainsbury's, £3.50, £3 with Nectar
SAVE: 50p

DIET

CALORIE COUNTED SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE (400G),
Sainsbury's, £3.75, 2 for £6 with Nectar
SAVE: £1.50

THE GYM KITCHEN CHICKEN & CHORIZO PAELLA (400G),
Asda, £2.48, 4 for £5
SAVE: £4.92

COUNTED CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA (350G),
Morrisons, £2, 3 for £5
SAVE: £1



CALORIE CONTROLLED MUSHROOM RISOTTO (380G),
Tesco, £3.30, 3 for £8.50
SAVE: £1.40

SLIMMING WORLD MARRY ME CHICKEN PASTA (550G),
Iceland, £4.50, 5 for £20
SAVE: £2.50

JOHN WEST ON THE GO LIGHT FRENCH TUNA PASTA SALAD (220G),
Ocado, £2, 2 for £3.50
SAVE: 50p

GOOD FUEL CHICKEN & SWEET POTATO PENANG CURRY (250G),
Co-op, £3.50, 2 for £6 Members
SAVE: £1

*ALL PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

TOP 10 FOR CLEANING

SPRAYS & CLEANERS

Stove and Log Burner Cleaning Spray Lakeland, was £9.99, now £7.99
SAVE: £2

Domestos Bleach Original (750ml) Tesco, £1.25, 4 for 3 with Clubcard
SAVE: £1.25

HG Oven, Grill and Barbecue Cleaner Robert Dyas, was £9.99, now £7.49
SAVE: £2.50

Method Floor Cleaner Wild Rhubarb Amazon, was £4.50, now £3
SAVE: £1.50

Mr Muscle Sink and Drain Unblocker (500ml) Co-op, £4.50, 2 for £6
SAVE: £3

KIT

1 **Lakeland Cordless Handheld Vacuum Cleaner** Lakeland, as £69.99, now £54.99
SAVE: £15

2 **Draper 3m Telescopic Washing Brush** Robert Dyas, was £29.99, now £14.99
SAVE: £15

3 **Vileda 2 in 1 Dustpan Set** Tesco, £5, £4 with Clubcard
SAVE: £1

4 **Vax SpotWash Home and Car Spot Cleaner** Argos, was £199, now £100
SAVE: £99

5 **Pro Anti-Bacteria 2 in 1 Grout Tile Cleaning Brush** Debenhams, was £3.99, now £3
SAVE: 99p

GRAB IT

If you're planning some DIY for January then look no further than Toolstation which has offers on a vast range of tools. Discounted items include a Bahco 90 Series Adjustable Wrench set of three (reduced from £72.98 to £58.38), an Estwing Claw Hammer (reduced from £55.99 to £44.79), and a Stanley FatMax Impact Driver Body Only (reduced from £89.98 to £80.98).

CLICK & SAVE

For those of us thinking about a New Year refresh and tidy-up after the clutter of Christmas, check out Online Home Shop (onlinehomeshop.com) which has loads of storage solutions that will look gorgeous in the home, as well as being functional and convenient. Options include a Boucle Foldable Rectangular Storage Ottoman (was £34, now £18), a three-drawer fabric cabinet (was £30, now £14) and a Boucle Six-Drawer Storage Chest (was £42, now £23).

STOCK UP

Gut-loving brand Bio&Me's gluten free granolas are on offer at Sainsbury's using your Nectar card until January 25. They are available in Cashew & Almond (350g) and Berry Burst (350g). Vegan-friendly to pair with your milk of choice for a tasty high-fibre breakfast with absolutely no nasties or added sugars. Down from £3.95 to £2.95.

WHAT'S NEW

It's about now when your shiny new fitness regime might be hitting a bit of a brick wall. A quick look at George at Asda's brilliantly priced Gym Locker range of sports clothing might boost your enthusiasm. Items include leggings and wrap leggings for £18, bralettes for £12, a vest top for £16 and a quarter zip for £20.

Halo EXCELLENCE. SIMPLIFIED.

Until now, has there ever been the ‘perfect’ cordless vacuum?

Well, here at **Halo**, we believe we’ve designed it – and we’re not alone. Below, you can see a small selection of what the media are saying about the **award-winning Halo Capsule** and our **most powerful cordless vacuum yet – the Capsule XR**.

Outstanding performance

The 32V Halo Capsule delivers the performance of a full-size corded vacuum, has a 60-minute runtime, and a whopping 2-litre dirt capacity – more than any other cordless on the market and astonishingly, it weighs just 2.6kg. This is due to a completely unique carbon fibre body – a material usually used in aviation and motorsport, but now for the first time, in a vacuum – British engineering at its best.*

So what’s the clever bit?

The secret is Halo’s unique Capsule design, is that it directs dirt into a dust pouch and away from the mechanics, while advanced HEPA allergy filtration captures 99.97% of particles, including dust and pollen, to ensure clean air.

Cleaner emptying

*Bagless vacuum’s can be a real hassle – difficult to empty, dirty and messy. Halo’s Capsule traps debris in a hygienic dust pouch, and with a whopping 2-litre capacity you empty less and it’s clean when you do**, so, there’s no dust clouds, no trapped dirt and no clogged filters – just fantastic performance at a great price.*

Great on all floor types

3 different power settings mean you are in control, whatever the floor type. Halo moves seamlessly between carpets and hard-floors and the powered brush bar can be turned on or off according to floor covering. Rubberised wheels offer greater surface protection. Fully re-charged in just 3 hours.

Pet hair

The Halo Capsule is perfect at picking up stubborn per hair, due to its power and large capacity. Our dust pouches trap the hair, smells and nastiness you experience with some other vacuums. The brush bar is fully removable for quick and easy cleaning.

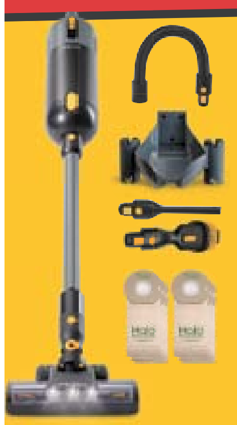
Converts to a handheld

The Capsule converts to a handheld and comes with a versatile set of tools, for cleaning up high, down low or in-between – perfect for upholstery, stairs and even the car. Our basic model also comes with 26 free dust pouches.

Halo
THE BIG JANUARY SALE!
SAVE OVER £320

Capsule	Capsule XR
Weighs just 2.6kg	Weighs only 2.7kg
60 minute runtime	140 minute runtime*
1.6L capacity	Larger 2L capacity
Comes with 1 year’s worth of dust pouches	Comes with 1 year’s worth of dust pouches
	Anti Wrap Brush technology
	Freestanding design

BIG JANUARY SALE!
HURRY! LIMITED STOCK!
OFFER ENDS JANUARY 31ST 2026



Capsule Vacuum, Wall Dock, Crevice Tool, Upholstery & Dusting Combo Tool, Power Floor Tool & Flex Hose, **2 Year Warranty & Fast FREE Delivery PLUS 1 year’s worth of dust pouches**

RRP ~~£511.88~~ Save over £320

Now just £189

Get a **FREE Mini Power Brush,** worth £44.99
Quote offer code DE26J1

Halo in the news...

Which? Best Buy April 2025 Cordless Vacuum Cleaners — *“The Halo is **nothing short of fantastic** at cleaning.”*

Good Housekeeping Institute Approved 2025 — *“This vacuum **scored 100%** in all our tests.”*

The Telegraph — ***10 / 10** Best Robust Cordless Vacuum.*

Evening Standard — *“A dazzling **new cordless contender** to the market.”*

INDEPENDENT — *“We were blown away by **how well it picks up from different floor types.**”*

To order, call now on **0800 915 3667**
or scan QR code. Quote DE26J1 when ordering by phone or online.
Learn more at **halocapsule.com**

2 year manufacturer’s warranty including battery. When compared to other UK market available large capacity cordless vacuums based on independent tests to IEC62886-2:2016 Sec 5.3. *Run times quoted may vary depending on surfaces cleaned. **Hygienic emptying measured to IEC62885-2:2016 Sec.5.11 Filtration efficiency and dust re-emission of the dry vacuum cleaner - Modified for cordless samples. Halo Capsule vs Leading Bagless competitor in Independent tests. Free Delivery to UK mainland addresses (including Highlands). Halo Appliances Ltd. Warwickshire, England.

TODAY'S TV ONES TO WATCH

by **MIKE WARD** *TV critic*

DOC MARTIN, ITV3, 8PM, 9PM
MEN BEHAVING BADLY, U&GOLD, 9.20PM, 9.55PM

ARE you a fan of Martin Clunes? Then here's a double treat for you – the first ever episodes of Doc Martin, where he plays the somewhat socially awkward Dr Martin Ellingham, and the first of 90s sitcom Men Behaving Badly, where Neil Morrissey would eventually play his flatmate Tony.

I say "eventually" because this first series of the classic sitcom actually co-starred another top comic actor. Ten points if you know who it was.

Unless you guess Harry Enfield, in which case, minus 10 points for being such a clever clogs.

JANE MCDONALD: FROM POLE TO POLE, 5, 9PM

"IT MAY be zero degrees, with the snow falling down, but I've got warm and tender love, just as long as he's around." Not my own sentiments, but the lyrics to It May Be Winter Outside (But In My Heart It's Spring).

That's the song Jane has chosen this week for the rather awkward al fresco performance to which she insists on treating us in each episode, in this case concluding her trip to the Falklands.

Her audience, consisting entirely of penguins, looks utterly indifferent, bar one chap who lets out a loud squawk at the end. Whether he's crying: "Thank God she's stopped," I'll let you decide.

Pick of the day
CAN YOU MAKE £10K IN 10 DAYS?, C4, 8PM

NICE LITTLE EARNER
Host Scarlett Moffatt

GRAND WAY TO HUSTLE UP MONEY

THERE'S a simple answer to the question posed by this programme's title. Namely: yes. Making £10,000 in 10 days is indeed doable. In fact, the latest BBC salary list would suggest it's an absolute doddle. You can earn that much, and often more, just by playing some nice records on the radio, or more likely some awful ones, or by sitting in a chair on Match Of The Day, saying: "He was lucky not to get a straight red".

But Scarlett Moffatt, who hosts this show tonight, isn't talking about that sort of work. She's talking about bringing in money on top of your regular income, via what's called a "side-hustle". These, she's heard, can earn people an average of 10K per year. Yes, per year. So, not in 10 days, as the title somewhat confusingly implies. Ten grand in 10 days, it turns out, is the target she's set herself, as she and her team put some side-hustles to the test.

Now, the word "hustle" has, to me, only ever suggested one of two things – either you're earning money in a dodgy way or that you're doing the dance popularised by Van McCoy.

But apparently I'm way out of touch (what a shock), because neither is what "hustle" refers to nowadays. It's one of those words that have taken on a different meaning, much like "sick" and "celebrity" and "woman" have done.

A "side hustle" simply means you're earning extra income, and legitimately so, by showing initiative, energy and enterprise. The "quick-turnaround money-makers" Scarlett looks at include online auctions, print-on-demand, affiliate marketing and dog-walking. But the one that sounds the best, because it sounds the easiest, is voice-over work.

It seems there are provisos, mind you.

Most notably, they prefer people with "a regional accent or a slightly different way of saying things". But if, like me, a regional accent is something you sadly lack, I wouldn't abandon hope. Just learn to mimic TV personalties whose own regional accents have done their careers no harm.

Maybe start with Alison Hammond, Paddy McGuinness, Josie Gibson, Danny Dyer and Scarlett herself. Assuming you can do them all at once, that should also take care of the need to sound "slightly different".

BEST COSY CRIME

FATHER BROWN, BBC1, 2PM

The priest investigates a death at a holiday camp, searches for lost treasure in a castle, and steps in when Mrs McCarthy's life is threatened.

BEST FILM

BRIDESMAIDS, ITV2, 9PM

From bride-to-be Lillian (Maya Rudolph) befouling herself in the street to Annie's (Kristen Wiig) airplane meltdown, this is a riot.

BEST SOAP

EMMERDALE, ITV1, 8PM

Paddy is told to prepare for the worst. April thinks she's in the frame for Callum's murder. Jai heads off, unaware there is a corpse in his van.

BEST QUIZ

THE BIG FAT QUIZ OF TELLY, CHANNEL 4, 9PM

Harry Hill, Judi Love, Sam Campbell, Joanne McNally, Susan Wokoma and Tom Allen put their TV skills to the test with host Jimmy Carr.

TODAY'S PREVIEWS ARE ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE

FILM RATINGS

★★★★★ BRILLIANT
★★★★ VERY GOOD
★★★ GOOD
★★ AVERAGE
★ BAD

(R) REPEAT

ALL PROGRAMMES ARE LISTED IN GREENWICH MEAN TIME (GMT).

BBC One

6.00am Breakfast News headlines.
9.30 Morning Live Magazine.
10.45 Rip Off Britain: Holidays A couple whose cruise holiday was ruined by foul-smelling liquidised food waste.
11.30 Homes Under the Hammer Property auctions. (R)
12.15pm Bargain Hunt A special edition of the show themed on radio serial The Archers.
1.00 BBC News at One; Weather
2.00 *NEW* **Father Brown** Mrs McCarthy makes a surprise return to Kembleford.
2.45 Escape to the Country Nicki Chapman searches for a village property in Dorset. (R)
3.45 Garden Rescue Charlie Dimmock and Lee Burkhill are in a Manchester garden. (R)
4.30 The Travelling Auctioneers A woman seeks help clearing a house that is packed with generations of memories.
5.15 Pointless Quiz show, with Alexander Armstrong and guest co-host Judi Love.
6.00 BBC News at Six; Weather
6.30 Regional News; Weather

BBC Two

6.00am Lost and Found in the Lakes Lost treasures. (R)
6.30 Garden Rescue (R)
7.15 The Travelling Auctioneers Selling heirlooms. (R)
8.00 Sign Zone: Digging for Britain In the Highlands. (R)
9.00 BBC News Headlines.
12.30pm Political Thinking with Nick Robinson: John Swinney
1.00 Impossible Quiz show. (R)
1.45 Brainbox Challenge (R)
2.15 Hidden Treasures of the National Trust Double bill. Cameras follow teams at three of the Trust's houses in Kent; unique statues in an Irish garden. Last in series. (R)
4.15 Meet the Moose Family: Natural World The story of a mother moose. (R)
5.15 Flog It! From Haddon Hall. (R)
6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games With Huge Davies, Amy Dowden, Humphrey Ker and Jamie-Lee O'Donnell.
6.30 Robson Green's Weekend Escapes Robson heads to a farm near Hexham.

ITV1

6.00am Good Morning Britain A lively mix of news, current affairs and lifestyle features.
9.30 Lorraine Entertainment news.
10.00 This Morning Topical daily magazine, featuring a mix of celebrity chat, showbusiness news, advice and discussion. Including Local Weather.
12.30pm Loose Women Celebrity interviews and topical debate.
1.30 ITV News; Weather
1.55 Regional News; Weather
2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson and his dealers are in Port Sunlight in the Wirral, where a bargain glass set makes a big profit at auction.
3.00 Time Is Money Quiz.
3.59 Regional Weather
4.00 Deal or No Deal Paralympian Denise and her dog Sherpa aim to become 100,000-pound winners by opening the iconic red boxes. Stephen Mulhern hosts.
5.00 The Chase Alun, Rosa, Heidi and Drew take part.
6.00 Regional News; Weather
6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather

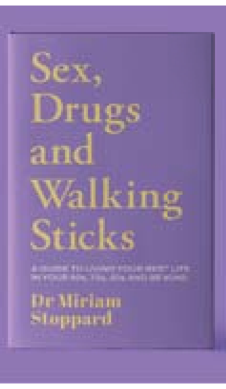
Channel 4

6.25am Cheers Triple bill. (R)
7.45 Everybody Loves Raymond Triple bill of the sitcom. (R)
9.10 Frasier Four episodes. (R)
11.10 American Pickers (R)
12.05pm Channel 4 News
12.10 Car S.O.S Restoring a 1969 Lancia Fulvia 1.3 Rallye. (R)
1.10 Find It, Fix It, Flog It Items include tree stumps, a dolls' house and a yarn spinner. (R)
2.10 Countdown With Debbie McGee in Dictionary Corner.
3.00 A Place in the Sun Ben Hillman helps Penny and Mark find a holiday home in Granada, Spain. (R)
4.00 A New Life in the Sun In France, Nichola and Roy welcome their first guests.
5.00 Junior Bake Off It's the final day for the heat one bakers as they take on Pastry Day.
6.00 A Place in the Sun Laura Hamilton helps Liz and Noel secure a bolthole in southern Tenerife so they may enjoy the Canarian winter sun, as opposed to enduring freezing temperatures back in Britain.

5

6.00am Milkshake! Children's TV.
9.15 Jeremy Vine Discussion.
11.30 Storm & Alexis Debate.
12.45pm 5 News at Lunchtime
12.50 Matt Allwright Debate on the day's biggest stories, and consumer advice to help viewers save money.
2.00 Vanessa Discussion show, presented by Vanessa Feltz.
3.00 The Madame Blanc Mysteries Caron enlists Jean and Dom's help when a valuable relic from the local church is stolen and a priest is discovered murdered. Niall's mother Niamh pays a visit. (R)
4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun Mark and Terri test a cooking class at Mark's restaurant, but two students' injuries threaten their plans.
5.00 5 News at 5 Headlines.
6.00 Secrets of the Royal Palaces Tales of palace retreats, exploring former royal yacht Britannia's hidden history and unravelling why its decommissioning caused public sorrow. (R); 5 News

Sex, Drugs and Walking Sticks
by Dr Miriam Stoppard



AMAZON

	BBC One	BBC Two	ITV1	Channel 4	5
7	**7.00 The One Show** Angellica Bell and JB Gill present. **7.30 Would I Lie to You?** Bob Mortimer, Dianne Buswell, Jamelia and Mark Chapman bolster the deceitful talents of captains Lee Mack and David Mitchell. Rob Brydon hosts.	**7.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** The treasure-hunting challenge, with actor Les Dennis and former EastEnders star Nitin Ganatra searching for items in the north-west of England, with David Harper and Irita Marriott. (R)	**7.30 Millionaire Hot Seat** Jeremy Clarkson hosts the quiz where each episode sees hopefuls compete for a one-million-pound prize – however, only one player can take their place in the Hot Seat at a time and work their way up the ladder.	**7.00 Channel 4 News** A round-up of all the latest headlines, in-depth interviews and analysis of political developments and current affairs. Plus, the day's leading sports stories and up-to-the-minute weather reports.	**7.00 The Ritz: The World's Most Famous Hotel** Uncovering the history and the secrets of a hotel that's been 'putting on The Ritz' for nearly 120 years, from the grand opening in 1906 to today. (R) Followed by 5 News Update
8	**8.00 The Traitors** As the game reaches the half-way point, it remains to be seen whether the faithful are inching closer to uncovering the traitors. The mission provided by Claudia gets everyone to reflect on their time in the castle.	**8.00** *NEW* **Gardeners' World** In the first of four specials, Monty Don marks the start of a new gardening year. He reflects on memorable moments while transforming Longmeadow's jewel garden with giant grasses and French beans.	**8.00 Emmerdale** Someone has to think on their feet, Paddy's news gets worse and a body lies undiscovered. **8.30 Coronation Street** With families at war and surprises emerging, the aftermath of the crash causes shockwaves.	**8.00 Can You Make £10K in 10 Days?** Scarlett Moffatt puts side hustles to the test to see which can make maximum profit with minimal effort to offer viable streams of extra income for cash-strapped people.	**8.00 Tom Read Wilson's Magnificent Journey** Having travelled across the Alps, Tom finds solace in the beauty of Lake Como, visiting Villa Balbianello before donning a glittering mask for the Venice Carnival.
9	**9.05 The Traitors: Uncloaked** Ed Gamble discusses the latest goings on with series one's Amanda and Charlotte Church. **9.30 Amanda & Alan's Greek Job** Amanda Holden and Alan Carr set about transforming the main ground floor room.	**9.00** *NEW* **Mystery Road: Origin** In 2000, police detective Jay Swan relocates to his partner Mary's birthplace, but finds a community in denial. **9.55 Saving Lives at Sea** A fisherman has suffered a suspected stroke. (R)	**9.00 Beat the Chasers** Bradley Walsh hosts as contestants Daniel, Rebekah, Raymond, Samuel and Daniella face the six Chasers – the Sinnerman, the Beast, the Governess, the Menace, the Vixen and the Dark Destroyer. (R)	**9.00 The Big Fat Quiz of Telly** Jimmy Carr once again acts as quizmaster as comedian pairings Harry Hill, Judi Love, Tom Allen, Joanne McNally, Sam Campbell and Susan Wokoma compete to see who knows the most about past and present television shows. Charles Dance, the children of Mitchell Brook Primary School, and a host of celebrity question-setters will be on hand to help Jimmy ask the big questions. Plus, they'll be clips from the shows and some mystery guests.	**9.00 Jane McDonald: From Pole to Pole** The singer braves the wild South Atlantic – tracking Shackleton's footsteps. She also relaxes with 10,000 penguins, and belts out a tune in one of the planet's remotest spots.
10	**10.00 BBC News at Ten** **10.30 Regional News; Weather** **10.40 The Graham Norton Show** The host catches up with guests Chris Pratt, Cynthia Erivo, Dawn French and Rob Beckett. With music by singer Jack Savoretti.	**10.00 QI** Sandi Toksvig asks questions on animals that start with a W, with Nabil Abdulrashid, Holly Walsh and Sam Campbell joining regular panellist Alan Davies. **10.30 Newsnight** Analysis of the day's events; Weather	**10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather** **10.30 Regional News; Weather** **10.45** *FILM* **Shaun of the Dead** (2004, 15) An unambitious 29-year-old man recently dumped and trapped in the job from hell decides to get his life back on track. Unfortunately, he has to put his plans on hold when zombies rise from their graves and stalk the streets of London to feast on the living. Comedy horror, starring Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Kate Ashfield. ★★★★		**10.00 When Luxury Cruising Goes Wrong** Interviews with people whose luxury cruises ended in disaster, including the story of a family on a voyage around the Gulf of Mexico that ended in misery when the ship caught fire. (R)
11	**11.30** *FILM* **Superbad** (2007, 15) Two teenage friends are on the brink of going to different colleges, so decide to mark the event by going to a party where they hope to lose their virginity. However, they have promised to supply the booze for the event, a task that proves much harder than expected because they are under age. Comedy, starring Jonah Hill, Michael Cera and Christopher Mintz-Plasse. ★★★★	**11.00** *FILM* **The Old Oak** (2023, 15) Premiere. A kind pub landlord attempts to dissipate tensions in his small town between the locals and recently arrived Syrian refugees. Ken Loach's drama, starring Dave Turner and Ebla Mari. ★★★★		**11.00 Taskmaster's New Year Treat** Double bill. First of a two-part special, with Big Zuu, Jill Scott, Rose Ayling-Ellis, Sam Ryder and Susie Dent; part two of two. Greg Davies presents as Alex Horne sets the group more challenges. (R)	**11.35 The Greatest Hits of 70s Pop** Relive some of the biggest pop hits of the 1970s, including archive tracks by Rod Stewart, Billy Joel, the Buggles, the Crusaders, and Ian Dury and the Blockheads. (R)
12 MIDNIGHT	**1.15am** Weather for the Week Ahead **1.20-6.00am** BBC News	**12.50am** Sign Zone: Lucy Worsley's Victorian Murder Club. The historian investigates a serial killer who was never caught. (R) **1.50** Sign Zone: The Million Pound Shaman Scam (R) **2.50** Sign Zone: Robson Green's Weekend Escapes (R) **3.20-6.30am** This Is BBC Two. Preview of programmes.	**12.20am** Millionaire Hot Seat (R) **12.45** Shop on TV **3.00** Jimmy & Shivi's Farmhouse Breakfast. Jimmy Doherty and Shivi Ramoutar return with the food and lifestyle show, with actor Paterson Joseph joining them in the kitchen. (R) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05-6.00am** Deal or No Deal (R)	**1.00am** *FILM* In Bruges (2008, 18) Two hitmen have a series of surreal misadventures while lying low in Belgium after a job goes wrong. Dark comedy, with Colin Farrell. ★★★★ **2.45** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R) **3.35** Find It, Fix It, Flog It (R) **3.55-6.15am** Four in a Bed (R)	**1.00am** PlayOJO Live Casino Show **3.00** Your Dream Kitchen for Less (R) **3.50** World's Most Scenic River Journeys (R) **4.40** The Wonderful World of Chocolate (R) **5.30** Entertainment News on 5 **5.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom (R) **5.45-6.00am** Milo (R)

ITV2
FREEVIEW 6

6.00am CITV **7.30** Celebrity Dinner Date **8.30** Olivia and Alex: Parenthood **9.25** The Only Way Is Essex **10.25** The Real Housewives of Miami **11.20** The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills **12.15pm** Dinner Date **1.15** Celebrity Dinner Date **2.15** The Only Way Is Essex **3.10** The Real Housewives of Orange County **4.10** The Real Housewives of Miami **5.00** The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills

6.00 Celebrity Catchphrase With Phil Daniels, Steph McGovern and AJ Odudu.

7.00 Deal or No Deal Mickelle takes part.

8.00 The Real Housewives of Orange County Gina is caught between Katie and Heather after the allegations.

9.00 FILM **Bridesmaids** (2011, 15) Comedy, starring Kristen Wiig. ★★★★

11.35 Family Guy Three fairy tales.

12.05am Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.30** Bob's Burgers **1.55** Olivia Attwood's Bad Boyfriends **2.55** Unwind with ITV **3.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

U&Dave
FREEVIEW 19

6.00am Teleshopping **7.10** James May: The Reassembler **8.00** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **9.00** Guy Martin's D-Day Landing **11.00** Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes **12.00noon** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **2.00** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge **3.00** Top Gear **5.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British

6.00 Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes The fish market in Catania.

7.00 QI Christmas special from 2004, with Rich Hall, Mark Steel and Phill Jupitus.

7.40 Richard Osman's House of Games

9.00 QI XL Maisie Adam, Jack Dee and Kiri Pritchard-McLean join regular panellist Alan Davies on the comedy quiz.

10.00 Taskmaster With Noel Fielding.

11.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You

12.00m't Mock the Week. Quiz show. **12.40** Would I Lie to You? **2.00** Australian Ninja Warrior **3.35** Gadget Man **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

E4
FREEVIEW 13

6.00am Modern Family **6.55** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **7.00** Junior Bake Off **8.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **9.00** The Goldbergs **10.00** The Simpsons **11.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.00pm** The Simpsons: four episodes **3.00** The Goldbergs **3.30** LIVE Football. Mali v Senegal (kick-off 4.00pm). Coverage of the first quarter-final.

6.30 LIVE **Football** Cameroon v Morocco (kick-off 7.00pm). The second quarter-final, which takes place at Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in Rabat, Morocco.

9.15 The Inbetweeners Four episodes. Will is left home alone; the gang goes on a camping trip; first episode of the comedy; the four lads play truant.

11.25 Naked Attraction's Best Naughty Bits A look back at times that the unique dating show has broken new ground.

12.30am Naked Attraction **1.30** First Dates **2.35** The Inbetweeners **3.40** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.35-6.00am** The Simpsons

ITVQuiz
FREEVIEW 28

9.00am Deal or No Deal **10.00** Tipping Point **1.00pm** Lingo **2.00** Tenable **3.00** Beat the Chasers **4.00** Riddiculous **5.00** Deal or No Deal. Gameshow.

6.00 Lingo Triple bill. With contestants from the West Midlands, Rickmansworth, London and Bradford; featuring contestants from Gloucestershire and Buckinghamshire; with Rebecca, Anne, Gareth, Frank, Rahul and Manny.

9.00 Alan Carr's Epic Gameshow The comedian hosts an updated version of Strike It Lucky, with three pairs trying to navigate their way across a sea of screens, trying to avoid the hotspots.

10.00 Tipping Point Triple bill. Ben Shephard hosts the quiz show in which four players take on an extraordinary machine in the hope of winning the £10,000 jackpot.

12.55am Tenable. Five friends answer questions about top 10 lists. **1.50** Unwind with ITV **2.00-9.00am** Teleshopping

U&Drama
FREEVIEW 20

6.00am Teleshopping **7.25** At Home with the Braithwaites **8.20** Doctors **9.35** Classic Holby City **10.40** Classic Casualty **11.45** The Bill **12.50pm** Classic EastEnders **2.05** All Creatures Great and Small **3.10** Howards' Way **4.20** Bergerac **5.25** One Foot in the Grave

6.00 To the Manor Born Audrey takes a holiday, but frets about leaving her beloved Grantleigh Manor in DeVere's hands. Penelope Keith stars.

6.40 Last of the Summer Wine Double bill.

8.00 Father Brown Double bill.

10.00 New Tricks Part one of two. Brian is suspended for punching a senior officer, while the rest of the team visit Gibraltar.

11.15 Waking the Dead Part one of two. The work of a serial killer is reinvestigated.

12.30am Hotel Portofino. Rose and Alice spring surprises on their returns to Portofino. **1.40** One Foot in the Grave **2.25** To the Manor Born **2.55** Whitstable Pearl **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

More4
FREEVIEW 18

8.55am Find It, Fix It, Flog It **10.00** A Place in the Sun **11.30** Come Dine with Me: five episodes **2.10pm** Four in a Bed: five episodes **4.50** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away **5.55** Car S.O.S

6.55 Car S.O.S Tim and Fuzz restore Adam's Datsun 240k Skyline, a rare Japanese classic from the 1970s.

7.55 The Dog House Members of the Fullagar family get more than they bargained for when they are introduced to father and daughter, Pepe and Tink.

9.00 24 Hours in A&E Double bill. The lengths staff go to in the line of duty, with patients including Joe, who is rushed to St George's after being accidentally stabbed in the thigh; a man suffers multiple injuries after his paraglider was blown into a hillside.

11.05 999: On the Front Line Paramedics treat a 71-year-old for a broken ankle.

12.10am The Gulf **1.15** 24 Hours in A&E **3.25-3.55am** Food Unwrapped

BBC3
FREEVIEW 23

7.00pm The Catch Up The news.

7.05 SpongeBob SquarePants Double bill of animated capers.

7.30 Waterloo Road Double bill.

9.30 FILM **The Hunger Games** (2012, 12) A totalitarian future holds an annual nationally televised event in which two children from each of its regions fight to the death until only one remains. A teenage girl takes her younger sister's place in the games and must pit her wits against the deadly combat skills of her rivals. Sci-fi adventure, starring Jennifer Lawrence. ★★★★★

11.40 FILM **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (2013, 12) The victor in a televised battle to the death returns to the arena to face other past champions. Sci-fi adventure, starring Jennifer Lawrence. ★★★★

1.55am Smoggie Queens **2.25-3.55am** Confessions of a Steroid Gang

BBC4
FREEVIEW 9

7.00pm TOTP: 1999 With The All-Seeing I featuring Tony Christie.

7.30 TOTP: 1999 With Terrorvision, Steps, Gay Dad and The Offspring.

8.00 TOTP: 1982 Peter Powell presents the pop chart programme.

8.30 TOTP: 1987 Featuring Swing Out Sister, and Steve 'Silk' Hurley.

9.05 TOTP: 1976 David Hamilton presents the pop chart programme.

9.35 TOTP: 1976 The Brotherhood of Man, Abba, Fox and John Miles.

10.05 Rod Stewart: Radio 2 in Concert A 2013 performance at the BBC Radio Theatre by the singer, featuring hits including Maggie May.

11.05 Rod Stewart at the BBC A selection of performances.

12.05am Rod Stewart at the BBC: Volume 2. Archive performances. **1.05** Rod Stewart Live at Hyde Park **2.05** TOTP: 1999 **2.35** TOTP: 1999 **3.05-3.40am** TOTP: 1982

GB News
FREEVIEW 236

6.00am Breakfast with Stephen and Ellie **9.30** Britain's Newsroom **12.00noon** Good Afternoon Britain **3.00** Martin Daubney. Updates.

6.00 Dewbs & Co Plain-speaking, straight-talking – Michelle Dewberry delivers her take on the day's news.

7.00 Lee Anderson's Real World Lee Anderson brings his Real World show to the Great British public.

8.00 Friday Night with Matt Goodwin

9.00 Patrick Christys Tonight Replay Join Patrick for two hours of spirited debate and news making interviews.

11.00 Patrick Christys Tonight Late Edition Tomorrow's news, tonight. All of the major stories making the front pages, with Patrick Christys.

12.00m't The Late Show Live **2.00** Lee Anderson's Real World Replay **3.00** Patrick Christys Tonight Replay **5.00-6.00am** Patrick Christys Tonight Late Edition

Variations & S4C

WALES As BBC1 except: 1.35-1.45pm BBC Wales Today; Weather **6.30-7.00** BBC Wales Today. A round-up of the headlines; Weather **10.30-10.40pm** BBC Wales Today; Weather

MERIDIAN As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Meridian; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Meridian. A round-up of the headlines; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Meridian; Weather

CENTRAL As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Central; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Central. A round-up of the headlines; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Central; Weather

ITV WALES As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Cymru Wales; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Wales at Six; Weather **7.00-7.30** Vanished Wales. Documentary revealing lost landmarks and heritage. **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Cymru Wales; Weather

WEST As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News West Country; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country; Weather

ANGLIA As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Anglia. The latest headlines; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Anglia; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Anglia; Weather

WESTCOUNTRY As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News West Country; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country. A round-up of the latest headlines; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country; Weather

S4C 6.00am Cyw **12.00noon** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **12.05pm** Cwpwrdd Epic Chris **12.30** Heno **1.00** Cymry ar Gynfas **1.25** Y Cyfweliad **2.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **3.05** Cynefin **4.00** Awr Fawr **5.00** Stwnsh **6.00** Dan Do. An old farmhouse with a contemporary extension near Talog. **6.15** Y Deis. A Christmas special of the gameshow. **6.57** Newyddion S4C **7.00** Heno. Nightly magazine programme. **7.30** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **8.00** Sean Fletcher: Cyfrinachau'r Llong. A connection between the ship and the Wars of the Roses. **8.55** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **9.00** Y Crwydryn. Country singer Wil Tan embarks on a journey across Wales, meeting fellow musicians and friends to reflect on life. **10.35-11.40pm** Priodas Pum Mil

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Sport

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6.00am LIVE **Tennis** The WTA and ATP Tours.
2.00pm Total Football. The definitive take.
3.30 LIVE **SA20** Durban Super Giants v Sunrisers Eastern Cape. At Kingsmead Cricket Ground.
7.00 The Transfer Show **8.00** Sports Centre **10.00** Sky Sports News **10.30** Back Pages Tonight
11.00 LIVE **United Cup Tennis** Coverage of the mixed-gender team tournament in Australia.
1.00-6.00am LIVE **Tennis** WTA and ATP Tours.

SKY SPORTS CRICKET

6.00am Big Bash League **7.00** Best of J Anderson: 500th Wicket **7.10** Big Bash League
8.10 LIVE **Big Bash League** Hobart Hurricanes v Adelaide Strikers. Coverage of the T20 match.
11.30 Best of England v South Africa **11.45** Best of ICC WT20 **12.00noon** SA20 **2.00** Big Bash League **3.00** Best of J Anderson: 500th Wicket **3.10** Best of Sky Cricket
3.20 LIVE **SA20** Durban Super Giants v Sunrisers Eastern Cape. At Kingsmead Cricket Ground.
7.00 Big Bash League **8.00** SA20 **9.00** SA20 **10.00** WPL **11.00** Big Bash League
2.20am Best of J Anderson: 500th Wicket **2.30** Best of England v South Africa **2.45** Best of ICC WT20 **3.00** SA20 **3.55** Atherton Lord's Pavilion Portraits **4.00** Big Bash League
4.55-6.00am LIVE **Big Bash League** Brisbane Heat v Sydney Thunder. From The Gabba.

SKY SPORTS FOOTBALL

6.00am EFL Cup Highlights **8.45** EFL Greatest Games **10.00** Championship Season Review **11.00** SPFL: Old Firm Derby Best Goals **11.30** SPFL: Edinburgh Derby Best Goals
12.00noon EFL Highlights **1.00** SPFL Highlights **1.15** EFL Cup Highlights **2.15** EFL Highlights **3.30** 150 Years of the Edinburgh Derby **4.30** Bundesliga Special **5.30** EFL Highlights **7.30** EFL League One Goals **8.00** SPFL Highlights **8.15** EFL Highlights **8.30** Bundesliga **9.00** EFL Cup Highlights **10.00** SPFL Highlights **10.15** EFL Highlights **11.00** EFL Greatest Games
12.00m't EFL Cup Retro **2.45** EFL Greatest Games **4.00** Championship Review **5.00** Best Goals **5.30-6.00am** EFL Trophy Football

SKY SPORTS GOLF

6.00am DP World Tour Golf. Action from 2025.
4.00pm Junior Golf. Highlights of the Justin Rose Telegraph Junior Golf Championship. **4.30** The Players Championship **5.30** TGL **7.30** DP World Tour Golf. The 2025 BMW International Open.
1.00am PGA Tour Golf **3.00** Mark Roe's Short Game School **3.30** Best of the Shot Centre **4.00** Chronicles of a Champion Golfer **5.00-6.00am** Best of the Open Zone 2016

TNT SPORTS 1

6.00am Premier League Review **7.00** Premier League Stories **7.30** Premier League – The Big Interview **8.00** Premier League Netbusters
8.30 LIVE **Isuzu UTE A-League** Brisbane Roar v Auckland FC (kick-off 8.35am).
10.30 TNT Sports Reload **11.00** Premier League Review **12.00noon** Premier League – The Big Interview **12.30** Premier League Netbusters **1.00** TNT Sports Reload
1.15 LIVE **International T20 Cricket** Sri Lanka v Pakistan. Coverage of the second Twenty20 in the three-match series, from Dambulla.
5.15 Sign Up – Into Football. Joao Gomes talks to Damaris Cooke. **6.00** PL Netbusters
6.30 LIVE **Emirates FA Cup** Wrexham v Nottingham Forest (kick-off 7.30pm).
10.00 Original Documentary **11.30** Premier League Review **12.30am** Dakar Rally Saudi Arabia **1.30** International T20 Cricket Highlights **2.30** UEFA Champions League – Stories
3.00 LIVE **A-League Women** Wellington Phoenix v Melbourne City (kick-off 3.00am).
5.00-6.00am Isuzu UTE A-League

TNT SPORTS 2

6.00am Premier League Review **7.00** Premier League – The Big Interview. Georginio Rutter.
7.30 LIVE **IBSF World Cup** Coverage of the first heat of the Men's Skeleton in St Moritz-Celerina.
8.45 Training Day. A look at the best of the series.
9.15 LIVE **IBSF World Cup** The second heat of the Men's Skeleton in St Moritz-Celerina, Switzerland.
10.15 UEFA Champions League – Stories of the Finals. The 2016 final. **10.30** Training Day
11.00 LIVE **IBSF World Cup** Action from heat one of the Women's Skeleton in St Moritz-Celerina.
12.15pm Kenny Allstar's Number 1's
12.45 LIVE **IBSF World Cup** Action from heat two of the Women's Skeleton in St Moritz-Celerina.
1.45 Fishing: On the Bank **2.45** Sports Reload
3.00 LIVE **IBSF World Cup** Coverage of the Team Skeleton in St Moritz-Celerina, Switzerland.
4.00 Training Day **4.30** Classic Premier League **5.30** Premier League Legends **6.00** The Edge **7.00** Isuzu UTE A-League **8.00** TNT Sports Cricket Reload **8.30** Training Day **9.00** ABB FIA Formula E World Championship Highlights
10.00 LIVE **ABB FIA Formula E World Championship** Coverage of the first free practice session of the Mexico City E-Prix.
11.00 Original Documentary **11.30** Ultimate Pool
1.00am The Emirates FA Cup **2.00** Premier League Netbusters **2.30** TNT Sports Reload **3.00** TNT Sports Cricket Reload **3.45** The Edge
4.45-8.15am LIVE **T20 Super Smash** Coverage from New Zealand's domestic T20 competition.

Entertainment & Factual

ITV3 Freeview 10

6.00am Never the Twain **6.30** On the Buses **7.05** Classic Emmerdale **8.05** Classic Coronation Street **9.05** Inspector Morse **11.15** Heartbeat **1.20pm** Foyle's War **3.30** Classic Emmerdale **4.40** Classic Coronation Street **5.45** Heartbeat **8.00** Doc Martin **10.00** Foyle's War **11.55** Trial & Retribution **2.00-2.30am** Unwind with ITV

ITV4 Freeview 26

6.00am World of Sport **6.20** The Big Match Revisited **8.20** Magnum, PI **9.20** Kojak **10.25** Boon **11.35** The Professionals **12.35pm** Robin of Sherwood **1.50** Magnum, PI **2.55** Kojak **4.00** Boon **5.15** LIVE ITV Racing: Friday Night Live. Coverage of the first event of the series from Wolverhampton. **8.45** British Touring Cars **9.00** Ice Road Truckers **10.00** All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite **12.10am** Dark Side of the Ring **1.05** The Professionals **2.00** Minder **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30-4.00am** Motorsport Mundial

5STAR Freeview 32

8.00am Cats and Dogs at War **10.00** 22 Kids & Counting **11.00** Traffic Cops **2.00pm** Police Interceptors **5.00** Call the Bailiffs: Time to Pay Up **6.00** Home and Away **7.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **9.00** 999: Critical Condition **10.00** Trauma Room One **11.00** Skin A&E. A man has a lump the size of a golf ball removed from his neck. **12.00m't** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **1.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **2.00** The Good Wife **3.35-4.00am** Car Pound Cops

REALLY Freeview 17

6.00am Fantasy Homes by the Sea **7.00** Cruise TV with LoveitBookit **8.00** Escape to the Country **9.00** Salvage Hunters **12.00noon** Antiques Road Trip **2.00** The Repair Shop **3.00** Angus Ashworth: Yorkshire Heritage Hero **4.00** Long Lost Family **5.00** A Place in the Sun **6.00** Salvage Hunters **8.00** Antiques Road Trip **9.00** NEW Unsellable Houses. Lyndsay and Leslie transform a 1960s house into an organic modern masterpiece. **10.00** My Lottery Dream Home **11.00** Help! My House Is Haunted **2.00am** Teleshopping **4.00-6.00am** Salvage Hunters

5ACTION Freeview 33

9.00am Entertainment News on 5 **9.10** Traffic Cops **10.15** Police Interceptors **12.20pm** FILM Vengeance Valley (1951/PG) ★★★ **2.10** FILM Ride in the Whirlwind (1965/15) ★★★ **4.00** The Motorway **5.00** Traffic Cops **6.00** Police Interceptors **8.00** Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders **9.00** FILM U-571 (2000/12) ★★★★ **11.20** Banged Up Abroad **12.20am** World's Deadliest Weather: Caught on Camera **1.25** Ice Road Truckers **2.25** Trucking Hell **3.25-4.00am** Winter Road Rescue

SKY ARTS Freeview 36

6.00am Jonas Kaufman at Arena di Verona **8.00** The Joy of Painting **9.00** Tales of the Unexpected **10.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.00** The Directors **12.00noon** Discovering: Forest Whitaker **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** Stories from the National Gallery **3.00** Battle of the Irish Dancers **4.00** The Directors. Nicolas Roeg. **5.00** Discovering: Sigourney Weaver **6.00** Tales of the Unexpected **7.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **8.00** Guy Garvey: From the Vaults **9.00** Madness: Live at House of Common **10.30** The Specials: Live from Coventry Cathedral **12.05am** FILM Pauline Black: A 2-Tone Story (2024/15) Documentary. ★★★★ **2.00** Greatest Albums Live **3.00** Classic Albums **4.00** Inside Art: Eileen Agar at Whitechapel Gallery **4.30** Inside Art: Linda McCartney Retrospective **5.00-6.00am** The Art of Architecture

Live Emirates FA Cup
TNT Sports 1, 6.30pm
Josh Windass (left) and Championship side Wrexham will be hoping to spring an upset when they host Premier League Nottingham Forest in this year's opening third-round tie.

U&GOLD

7.35am Ever Decreasing Circles **8.05** The Green Green Grass **8.45** Dad's Army **9.25** Are You Being Served? **10.05** Open All Hours **10.45** Keeping Up Appearances **11.25** Last of the Summer Wine **12.40pm** The Green Green Grass **1.20** Dad's Army **2.40** Are You Being Served? **3.20** Open All Hours **4.00** Ever Decreasing Circles **4.40** Last of the Summer Wine **6.00** Keeping Up Appearances **6.40** Open All Hours **7.20** Dad's Army **8.00** The Good Life **9.20** Men Behaving Badly **10.30** The Good Life **11.50** Men Behaving Badly **12.55am** The Good Life **2.20** Men Behaving Badly **2.50** Keeping Up Appearances **3.20-4.00am** Open All Hours

U&YESTERDAY Freeview 27

6.10am Great British Railway Journeys **8.00** Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics **10.00** Rise of the Nazis **11.00** True Evil: The Making of a Nazi **12.00noon** Antiques Roadshow **2.00** Bangers & Cash **4.00** Rise of the Nazis **5.00** True Evil: The Making of a Nazi **6.00** Antiques Roadshow **7.00** Great Canal Journeys **8.00** 'Allo 'Allo! **10.30** Bangers & Cash **11.30** Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics **1.35am** Abandoned Engineering **2.25-3.00am** Great British Railway Journeys

U&ALIBI

7.15am Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Father Brown **10.00** The Mentalist **11.00** Hudson & Rex **12.00noon** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries **4.00** The Mentalist **5.00** Hudson & Rex **6.00** Father Brown **7.00** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries. Australian crime drama. **8.00** Death in Paradise **10.00** I, Jack Wright **11.00** Father Brown **12.00m't** So Help Me Todd **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00-4.00am** Murdoch Mysteries

SKY MAX

6.00am Hawaii Five-0 **8.00** The Flash **9.00** Stargate SG-1 **11.00** SEAL Team **12.00noon** The Flash **1.00** Hawaii Five-0 **3.00** S.W.A.T **4.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **5.00** SEAL Team **6.05** Stargate SG-1 **8.15** Never Mind the Buzzcocks **9.00** An Idiot Abroad **10.00** The 90s: Cinema's Greatest Decade **11.00** Fear the Walking Dead **12.00m't** Mr Bigstuff **2.00** Brit Cops: Frontline Crime UK **3.00** S.W.A.T **4.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **5.00-6.00am** Highway Patrol

SKY ATLANTIC

6.00am Fish Town **7.00** The Guest Wing **8.00** Boardwalk Empire **10.10** The Sopranos **12.20pm** Game of Thrones **2.30** The Wire **4.40** Westworld **5.45** Deadwood **6.50** Game of Thrones **9.00** House of the Dragon **11.30** Deadwood **12.35am** Game of Thrones **2.00** NEW Heated Rivalry **4.05** Game of Thrones **5.05-6.00am** Urban Secrets

SKY WITNESS

6.00am UK Border Force **7.00** Nothing to Declare **8.00** Border Patrol **9.00** Stop, Search, Seize **10.00** Nothing to Declare UK **11.00** A1: Britain's Longest Road **12.00noon** FBI **1.00** The Rookie **2.00** Send in the Dogs **3.00** Caught on Dashcam **4.00** Nothing to Declare **7.00** Police 24/7 **8.00** Law & Order: Criminal Intent **10.00** Matlock **11.00** The Rookie **12.00m't** Law & Order: Criminal Intent **1.00** FBI **2.00** Law & Order: Organized Crime **3.00** The Good Doctor **4.00** Stop, Search, Seize **5.00-6.00am** Road Wars

SKY COMEDY

8.00am Will & Grace **9.00** Ballers **10.15** Sex and the City **11.25** Entourage **12.30pm** Will & Grace **1.30** Sex and the City **2.45** Ballers **4.00** And Just Like That **4.45** The Office (US) **5.45** Will & Grace **6.45** Community **7.45** Sex and the City **9.00** Tracey Ullman: Live & Exposed. The actress and comedian takes to the stage in Los Angeles. **10.25** And Just Like That **11.10** Community **12.10am** Entourage **1.25** Ballers **2.45** Curb Your Enthusiasm **4.20-5.00am** Silicon Valley

DISCOVERY

6.00am How Do They Do It? **7.00** Junkyard Empire **9.00** Gold Rush **11.00** Bitchin' Rides: Road to the Ridler **1.00pm** Deadliest Catch **3.00** How Do They Do It? **5.00** Alaska: Homestead Rescue **7.00** Wheeler Dealers World Tour **8.00** Gold Rush **9.00** Expedition Files **10.00** Animals on Drugs. Bears breaking into homes. **11.00** Expedition Unknown **12.00m't** Deadliest Catch **1.00** Expedition Files **2.00** Animals on Drugs **3.00** Gold Divers **4.00-5.00am** Moonshiners

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

8.00am Europe from Above **9.00** Air Crash Investigation: Special Report **10.00** Seconds from Disaster **11.00** WW2: Hell Under the Sea **12.00noon** World War II: The Apocalypse **1.00** Aircrash: Disasters Uncovered **2.00** Air Crash Investigation **3.00** Hitler's Last Stand **4.00** Draining Loch Ness: In Search of the Monster **5.00** Ice Road Rescue **6.00** Nazi Megastructures **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Car S.O.S **10.00** FILM The Tale of Silyan (2025/PG) ★★★★ **11.40** Toronto Airport Uncovered **12.40am** To Catch a Smuggler **2.10** Lords of War **2.40** Abandoned **3.10** Food Factory **4.10** Prairie Dog Dynasty **5.00-5.30am** Teleshopping

Radio

BBC RADIO 1

97.6-99.8MHz 6.58am Newsbeat **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast with Greg James **10.00** Radio 1 Anthems with Greg James **10.30** Newsbeat **10.33** Radio 1 Anthems with Nat and Vicky **11.00** Radio 1's Group Chat with Nat and Vicky **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Sam and Danni **3.00** Dance Party Starters with Sam and Danni **4.00** The Official Chart on Radio 1 with Jack Saunders **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Radio 1's Dance Party with Danny Howard **8.00** Future Dance with Sarah Story **10.00** Pete Tong **12.00m't-2.00am** Radio 1's Essential Mix

BBC RADIO 2

88-91MHz 6.30am The Mark Goodier Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12.00noon** Tina Daheley **2.00** Trevor Nelson **4.00** Sara Cox **7.00** Michelle Visage **8.30** Michelle Visage's Handbag Hits **9.00** Sophie Ellis-Bextor's Kitchen Disco **11.00** The Rock Show with Shaun Keaveny **12.00m't** Romesh Ranganathan: For the Love of Hip-Hop **1.00-2.00am** Tony Blackburn's Sounds of Soul

BBC RADIO 3

90.2-92.4MHz 6.30am Breakfast **9.30** Radio 3's American Roadtrip **1.00pm** Classical Live **4.00** Composer of the Week: Copland **5.00** In Tune **7.00** Classical Mixtape. A sequence of music. **7.30** Friday Night Is Music Night **9.45** The Essay: Instrumental **10.00** Late Junction **11.30** 'Round Midnight **12.30-6.30am** Through the Night

CHOICE
Screenshot
Radio 4, 7.15pm
Fifty years on from the release of *Carrie* – based on Stephen King's first novel – Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode are joined by Mike Flanagan and Maitland McDonagh to look at his movie adaptations. They include *It*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, *The Green Mile*, *Misery* and *The Shining*.

BBC RADIO 4

FM 92.4-94.6MHz 6.00am Today **9.00** More or Less: The Stats of the Nation **9.30** The Organ Symphony **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** The Food Programme **11.45** Book of the Week: Overwhelmed **12.00noon** News **12.04** AntiSocial **12.57** Weather **1.00** The World at One **1.45** Human Intelligence **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Drama: Spores **2.45** Materials of State **3.00** Gardeners' Question Time **3.45** Short Works **4.00** Last Word **4.30** Mum in a Box **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** News **6.30** The News Quiz **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Screenshot **8.00** Any Questions? **8.55** This Week in History **9.00** Free Thinking **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Wedding Suit **11.00** Americast **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.00m't** News **12.30** Book of the Week: Overwhelmed **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.30** News Summary **5.34** Shipping Forecast **5.43** Prayer for the Day. Pause for reflection. **5.45-6.00am** Materials of State

BBC RADIO 5 LIVE

693/909kHz 6.00am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **11.00** Chiles on Friday **1.00pm** Elis James and John Robins **2.00** Matt Chorley **4.00** 5 Live Drive **7.00** 5 Live Sport **7.30** Football **10.00** Qasa Alom **1.00-5.00am** Laura McGhie

BBC RADIO WALES

FM: 94.6MHz 6.00am Radio Wales News Update **6.05** Wake Up with Radio Wales **6.31** Walescast **7.00** Radio Wales Breakfast **9.00** Lucy Owen **12.00noon** The Phone In **2.00** Eleri Sion. Music and chat. **5.00** Radio Wales Drive **6.30** Radio Wales Arts Show **7.00** Radio Wales Sport **10.00** Friday Night H **12.00m't-1.00am** The Party Playlist with H

CLASSIC FM

100-102MHz 6.30am Classic FM Breakfast with Dan Walker **9.00** The Classic FM Hall of Fame Hour with Dan Walker **10.00** Alexander Armstrong **1.00pm** Ritula Shah **4.00** Margherita Taylor **7.00** Classic FM at the Movies with Jonathan Ross **9.00** Opera Villains with Sir Bryn Terfel **10.00** Calm Classics **1.00-4.00am** Katie Breathwick

ABSOLUTE RADIO

DAB 6.00am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1.00pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush and Richie **7.00** Absolute 80s with Claire Sturgess **10.00** Sophie K. Entertainment, music and chat. **4.00-8.00am** Ben Coley

Movies

FILM4

11.00am The Caine Mutiny (1954/U) Second World War naval drama, starring Humphrey Bogart and Jose Ferrer. ★★★
1.40pm Roman Holiday (1953/U) Romantic comedy, starring Audrey Hepburn. ★★★★★
4.00 How Green Was My Valley (1941/U) Oscar-winning drama, starring Walter Pidgeon and Maureen O'Hara. ★★★★
6.20 A Knight's Tale (2001/PG) Comedy adventure, starring Heath Ledger. ★★★★
9.00 The Last Stand (2013/15) Action thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. ★★★
11.05 Legion (2010/15) Action fantasy, starring Paul Bettany and Dennis Quaid. ★★★
1.00-3.25am Dead Presidents (1995/18) Crime drama, with Larenz Tate. ★★★

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

7.15am All the Devils Are Here (2025/15) See 2.05am. ★★★
8.50 A Minecraft Movie (2025/PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Jason Momoa. ★★★★
10.35 The Phoenician Scheme (2025/15) Comedy, starring Benicio Del Toro. ★★★★
12.20pm Nuremberg (2025/15) See 8.00pm. ★★★★
2.50 Sinners (2025/15) Horror thriller, starring Michael B Jordan and Miles Caton. ★★★★
5.10 Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning (2025/12) Action thriller, starring Tom Cruise and Hayley Atwell. ★★★★
8.00 Nuremberg (2025/15) Premiere. A US Army psychiatrist is sent to assess high-ranking Nazi prisoners to decide if they are fit for trial. Thriller, starring Russell Crowe, Rami Malek and Leo Woodall. ★★★★
10.30 28 Years Later (2025/15) Horror, starring Jodie Comer and Ralph Fiennes. ★★★★
12.30am Safe House (2025/15) Thriller, starring Holt McCallany and Ethan Embry. ★★★
2.05 All the Devils Are Here (2025/15) Thriller, starring Eddie Marsan and Sam Claflin. ★★★
3.40 The Wedding Banquet (2025/15) Comedy, starring Bowen Yang. ★★★★
5.25-6.50am Hallow Road (2025/15) Thriller, starring Rosamund Pike. ★★★★

SKY CINEMA DRAMA

6.05pm Burning an Illusion (1981/15) Drama, starring Cassie McFarlane. ★★★
8.00 I, Tonya (2017/15) Ice skater Tonya Harding rises through the ranks of US figure skating, but her future is thrown into question by a shocking incident. Biopic drama, starring Margot Robbie and Sebastian Stan. ★★★★
10.15 Fifty Shades of Grey (2015/18) Erotic drama based on EL James' bestseller, with Jamie Dornan and Dakota Johnson. ★★★
12.25am Fifty Shades Darker (2017/18) Drama, with Dakota Johnson. ★★★
2.30 Fifty Shades Freed (2018/18) Drama, with Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan. ★★★
4.25-6.15am Beach Rats (2017/15) Drama, starring Harris Dickinson. ★★★★

SKY CINEMA FAMILY

6.00pm Babe (1995/U) Comedy, with James Cromwell and Magda Szubanski. ★★★★★
7.45 Monster Trucks (2016/PG) Fantasy adventure, with Lucas Till and Jane Levy. ★★
9.40 Spider-Man 2 (2004/PG) Comic-book adventure sequel, starring Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and Alfred Molina. ★★★★
11.50 Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008/PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Brendan Fraser and Josh Hutcherson. ★★
1.25am Friend or Foe (1982/U) Family drama, with John Bardon and Stacey Tendeter. ★★★
2.50 Breaking Point (2023/12) Drama, starring Kelvin Clarke and Karam Singh. ★★★
4.45-7.00am Ride On (2023/PG) Action drama, starring Jackie Chan and Liu Haocun. ★★★★

TALKING PICTURES TV

5.30pm Rebecca (1940/PG) Romantic thriller, starring Laurence Olivier. ★★★★★
8.00 Z Cars Vintage police drama.
9.05 The Omega Factor Sci-fi drama.
10.10 The Body Beneath (1970/15) Horror, with Gavin Reed and Jackie Skarvellis. ★★★
11.50 Hammer House of Mystery and Suspense Horror anthology series from 1984.
1.20am Come Back Peter (1952/U) Comedy, with Patrick Holt and Peter Hammond. ★★★
2.55-5.15am The Miracle of the Bells (1948/PG) Drama, starring Fred MacMurray. ★★★★

GREAT! MYSTERY

4.00pm Diagnosis Murder Detective drama.
5.00 Murder, She Wrote Angela Lansbury stars.
6.00 Sue Thomas: FBEye Crime drama.
7.00 Castle American crime drama.
8.00 Unforgettable Poppy Montgomery stars.
9.00 Garage Sale Mysteries: All That Glitters (2014/PG) Mystery, starring Lori Loughlin, Sarah Strange and Steve Bacic. ★★★
10.55 An Aurora Teagarden Mystery: A Bundle of Trouble (2017/U) Thriller, starring Candace Cameron Bure and Lexa Doig. ★★
12.50am Fatal Defense (2017/15) Thriller, starring Ashley Scott and David Cade. ★★
2.30 Nowhere To Be Found (2019/PG) Thriller, with Kate Drummond and Rya Kihlstedt. ★★
4.00-6.00am Sue Thomas: FBEye

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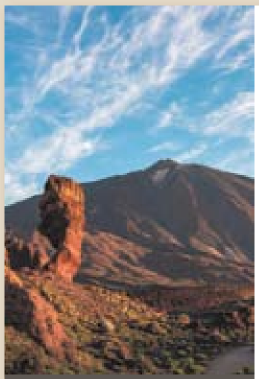

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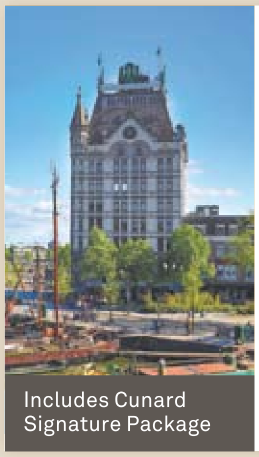
Canary Islands

29 November 2026
14 nights All Inclusive on Queen Anne
Sailing from Southampton

Interior Stateroom fr.	Balcony Stateroom fr.
£1,979PP	£2,433PP
US$420 on board credit per stateroom	US$600 on board credit per stateroom

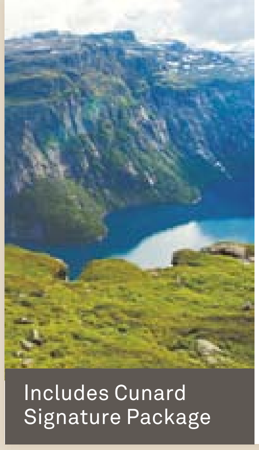


Includes Cunard Signature Package

Le Havre, Rotterdam & Zeebrugge

5 December 2026
7 nights All Inclusive on Queen Mary 2
Sailing from Southampton

Interior Stateroom fr.	Balcony Stateroom fr.
£1,289PP	£1,469PP
US$300 on board credit per stateroom	US$420 on board credit per stateroom



Includes Cunard Signature Package

Norwegian Fjords

2 May 2027
7 nights All Inclusive on Queen Anne
Sailing from Southampton

Interior Stateroom fr.	Balcony Stateroom fr.
£1,329PP	£1,651PP
US$300 on board credit per stateroom	US$420 on board credit per stateroom

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Letters

Edited by GREG MORGAN

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LETTER OF THE DAY

UK's gullible leaders are being played

SEIZED: The Russia-linked oil tanker Marinera

IS ANYONE in Parliament listening to the people who voted them in and pay their wages? Everything they do seems to have the opposite effect to what they intended.

We have made the decision about Shamima Begum. The way only way that decision should ever be reversed is through our courts. What next? Is the ECHR going to tell us we have accept the small boats and give them all British citizenship?

The U.S. is threatening Greenland while ("Britain helps U.S. seize Russia-linked oil tanker", January 8). I used to work on oil tankers and the ship is too high in the water to be fully loaded with oil. Is it just ballast, and is our Government being hoodwinked again?

Don Crombie,
Ashby de la Zouch, Leics

Trump flexing his muscles does not make world safer

I'M NOT sure, as Tim Newark believes, that the world is safer thanks to Donald Trump's raid on Venezuela ("Trump's decisive power play makes world a safer place", January 7).

It certainly makes Keir Starmer, Emmanuel Macron and Germany's leader Friedrich Merz look indecisive and weak, makes Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin sit up and think – but safer? Not particularly, when he's threatening to attack Greenland where the US already has a military base.

As Kemi Badenoch says, removing the scumbag Nicolas Maduro is morally right and he needs to face justice.

What Trump does next will define whether the world is safer or not and that, to a large extent, rolls us back to Ukraine and Putin.

Barrie Warren,
Bury, Lancs

Real life Traitors running Britain into the ground

WHY bother watching The Traitors on TV when we have real ones in government? We have Keir Starmer dragging us back into the EU ("Fears Starmer is plotting a 'full-blown Brexit betrayal'", January 5), David Lammy trying to stop trial by jury and Rachel Reeves stitching up pensioners, hospitality and hiking business rates.

Ray Latham,
Rayleigh, Essex

Stop posing, Starmer, and solve problems at home

ONCE again, our PM is posturing on the international stage and hiding from the electorate's concerns on the many domestic problems ("Britain will send troops to Ukraine after a ceasefire", January 7). Illegal migration, the economy, the cost of living, crime, a dysfunctional NHS and the excessive energy costs caused by Ed Miliband's reckless rush to net zero are what really matter to the public.

Meanwhile Keir Starmer, along with his mate Emmanuel Macron, try to prop up their failing political careers by posing with their "coalition of the willing". Two failing leaders who are insignificant on the world stage.

Alan Roberts,
Billericay, Essex

Will Ukraine soldiers live any better than migrants?

OUR PM is again trying to show himself as an international statesman, which he will never be.

If peace is accomplished in Ukraine will he assure our soldiers their accommodation will be better in Ukraine than the luxury he affords illegal migrants here?

Donald Wiseman,
Norwich

Show everyday Russians true scale of war dead

THERE must be a way to circumvent the media output in Russia to inform its people of the vast numbers of casualties in the war with Ukraine. If they were told that since February 2022 there has been in excess of 1.2 million troops killed or injured it would make them realise Vladimir Putin is not only guilty of mass murder but also destroying the Russian economy.

The main target should be the older generation who have grown up in the Soviet era as they have only known propaganda pushed out by state-controlled media. The younger generation is aware as they are tech savvy but don't want to draw attention to themselves for fear of being conscripted.

Paul Hartfree,
Coningsby, Lincs

Keir fails to learn lessons of private school VAT folly

LIKE Vanessa Feltz, I could not understand the reasoning behind the Government's decision to force parents to pay VAT on the fees for their children's private education ("Classless Keir and the politics of envy", January 7).

I suspect that all income from the increase will have been wiped out, and more, by the cost of educating thousands of children who now have to attend state schools, possibly causing overcrowding in the classrooms.

No one benefits from this. My grandson plays for Blackburn Academy football team and last year was selected for a scholarship to a private school.

The family were thrilled he was going to have this opportunity, something we could never have afforded, but a week before he was due to start we received a letter to say the school was forced to close due to dwindling pupil numbers. We were devastated, my grandson's hopes were crushed and I cannot see that anyone can have benefited from this near-sighted decision.

Lynne English,
Wickford, Essex

Older motorists way safer than teenage hotheads

THE figures quoted need some analysis ("Eye test for over-70s drivers under fire", January 7). About 24% of drivers killed in 2024 were aged 70 or over, while older drivers accounted for 12% of all car crash casualties.

It is obvious drivers over 70 will be more susceptible to more serious injuries than young people. If over-70s are causing 12% of all accidents then who are causing the other 88%?

Older drivers tend to drive slower and are more cautious and more courteous. Many times I've had younger drivers fly past me and I've caught them up by the next traffic light. I agree that compulsory tests are a good idea but don't just pick on us oldies.

Paul Henison,
Watlington, Oxon

Regular eyesight checks on professional drivers

THE pensioners I know get their eyes tested every two years and the opticians check they are OK to drive. There are thousands who drive for a living. Do they get their eyes checked? Do their employers check their eyesight is OK for the job they do? Should that not be mandatory? Eyesight deteriorates well before 70.

Anne Jones,
Stalybridge, Cheshire

Our kids need saving from themselves with new laws

AS A 77 year old who has been driving for more than 50 years, I have never had an accident. It is not the "old" drivers who have these accidents but the young, inexperienced ones. How often do we read of young kids dying, some barely old enough to drive? More should be done in driving lessons, raising the driving age and bringing in a law that says you cannot carry passengers until a certain age.

Trevor Buckle,
Lichfield, Staffs

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION BY EXPENSIVE, INCONVENIENT EVs

THERE have been various articles in the Daily Express regarding the low uptake of the purchase of electric vehicles. However they all seem to miss a crucial point. Approximately 40% of homes within the UK do not have access to a safe and suitable charging point.

Many of our houses are at the side of roads, meaning that EVs would need to be charged elsewhere which would be both expensive and very inconvenient. And why should other road users subsidise EVs?

Do politicians do research? It does make you wonder.

Andrea Lavender,
Keighley, W Yorks

TODAY: Friday January 9, 2026

ON THIS DAY

Daily Express

Hero pilot steers away from village

36 DIE AS JET HITS M1

37 years ago (1989)

We showed the wreckage of British Midland flight 92 which crashed on to the M1 near Kegworth, Leicestershire, as the pilot attempted to make an emergency landing at East Midlands Airport.

The eventual death toll from the crash was 47 with 74 people seriously injured.

A report later found that a fan blade on the Boeing 737 had broken due to metal fatigue and the crew had mistakenly shut down the wrong engine.

117 years ago (1909)

British explorer Ernest Shackleton planted the Union Jack 112 miles from the South Pole, the farthest south anyone had reached to date.

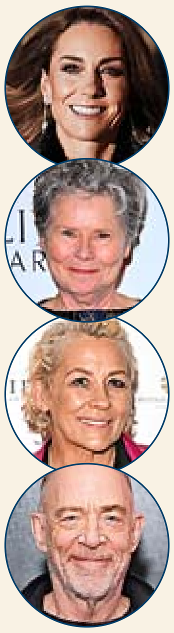
Shackleton's Nimrod Expedition was surpassed three years later when Norwegian Roald Amundsen and then Robert Falcon Scott's ill-fated expedition reached the South Pole.

54 years ago (1972)

The UK's 280,000 coal miners walked out on strike amid demands for a wage increase.

The strike lasted seven weeks and forced the Government to declare a state of emergency on February 9.

BIRTHDAYS



The Princess of Wales is 44. She is reportedly allergic to horses. Harry Potter actress **Imelda Staunton** is 70. She is married to Downton Abbey actor Jim Carter. TV's **Sarah Beeny** is 54. She said her childhood was like The Good Life. Actor **J.K. Simmons** is 71. JK stands for Jonathan Kimble.

TODAY'S GIGGLE

Did you hear about the ATM that got addicted to money? It suffered from withdrawals.

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JANUARY 2027

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Sat 9 **Santa Cruz, Tenerife**
Sat 16 **Basseterre, St. Kitts**
Mon 18 - Tue 19 **Bridgetown, Barbados** (overnight)
Tropical beaches with coral-rich waters, friendly locals and cheeky green monkeys characterise blissful Barbados

Santa Cruz, Tenerife

Thu 21 **St. George's, Grenada**
Fri 22 **Castries, St. Lucia**
Lush, romantic and welcoming, stunning St. Lucia is an adventure waiting to be had. The dramatic twin peaks of the Pitons make a majestic backdrop as you hike through the rainforest, sail with dolphins or sip a cocktail on a palm-fringed beach

Pitons, St. Lucia

Sun 24 **Philipsburg, St. Maarten**
Mon 25 **St. John's, Antigua**
Antigua's coastline, fringed with secluded coves and vibrant coral reefs, invites water enthusiasts for snorkelling, sailing and beachcombing

St. John's, Antigua

Tue 26 **Road Town, Tortola**

FEBRUARY 2027

Tue 2 **Las Palmas, Gran Canaria**
Sat 6 **La Coruña, Spain**
Mon 8 **Arrive in Southampton**

Dates not mentioned are spent relaxing at sea

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ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

You may need to let go of past connections or old obligations if you want to reach the goals you've set for yourself in the coming months. If you try to juggle too many things at once, then you probably won't achieve the results you desire. Choose one or two important aims and work on these first then on to the next.

For more call **0905 789 4171**
(80p/min + network access charge)

TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 21

No one seems that keen to return to certain routines. As reluctant as others are to get down to the usual business of the day, there is still a friendly atmosphere that's surrounding you. It's almost as if everyone just wants time to prepare for some serious matters that lie ahead. Try not to feel so uptight. Know you can't control everything.

For more call **0905 789 4172**
(80p/min + network access charge)

GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21

You could be taken aback by some news of an inheritance, bonus or rebate that is coming your way. This situation will be to your advantage but it is one that you did not anticipate. It shows that you never do know what is around the corner. You will need to respond quickly to an offer or it will go to someone else.

For more call **0905 789 4173**
(80p/min + network access charge)

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 23

You might want to make some time this morning or later in the evening to address issues that have been bubbling in your relationships. Some matters need to be resolved before you can move on to anything else. Being patient is essential for earning the respect, understanding and consideration you seek from others right now.

For more call **0905 789 4174**
(80p/min + network access charge)

JOELY RICHARDSON
Born on this day 1965

LEO JULY 24-AUG 23

Activities are lively and you could be meeting up with some generous people. Someone new who you are introduced to will be as big-hearted as yourself. You will both instantly feel a bond with each other. Wherever you are, you will enjoy having company around you and opening your mind to new possibilities.

For more call **0905 789 4175**
(80p/min + network access charge)

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 23

A new person you meet right now might keep you thinking about them long after you have said goodbye. If you are single, it seems like Cupid is casting a spell on you and even if you weren't considering starting a new relationship, you should reconsider that decision very soon. Don't have your guard up so high.

For more call **0905 789 4176**
(80p/min + network access charge)

LIBRA SEPT 24-OCT 23

People you are currently interacting with might not be as dependable or trustworthy as they seem at first glance. You probably won't accomplish much if you place your faith in them, only to end up feeling let down. In business, you depend only on yourself. Don't rush into any decisions, no matter how much buzz there is.

For more call **0905 789 4177**
(80p/min + network access charge)

SCORPIO OCT 24-NOV 22

You're in a cheerful and positive state of mind and this will please those around you. Even so, it's important to recognise that this day holds some minor risk for accidents so remain alert and watchful. Something you say or do could lead to complications. Start planning things for the months ahead and set yourself savings goals.

For more call **0905 789 4178**
(80p/min + network access charge)

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

New financial opportunities will come your way and if you wish to take advantage of these, then you will need to act quickly. Just keep in mind that some offers will look more appealing than they actually are. Decisions need to be made fast but also with caution. Ask a friend for a second opinion if things seem confusing.

For more call **0905 789 4179**
(80p/min + network access charge)

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20

Unproductive thoughts, conversations that lead nowhere and frustrating misunderstandings hold you back from making real progress. Why not leave it until next Monday to tackle anything that is complex or important? By then, life should be returning to a more normal routine. Don't panic, things will get resolved soon enough.

For more call **0905 789 4180**
(80p/min + network access charge)

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 19

Personal plans may clash with your professional goals. Someone at work, such as your boss or an older colleague, will try to dissuade you from commitments you are considering. If you believe these are right for you, trust your instincts to guide you. If someone's old ways are grating on you, it's time for you to have your say.

For more call **0905 789 4181**
(80p/min + network access charge)

PISCES FEB 20-MARCH 20

Pay attention to internal prompts. In other words, listen to your intuition. This could transform your perspective on the future. Even though you have a lot of thinking to do, you will enjoy meeting up with people and collecting new pieces of information throughout the day. You're never too old to start learning something new.

For more call **0905 789 4182**
(80p/min + network access charge)

Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge - maximum of 5 minutes duration. You must be over 18 and have the bill payer's permission. Service provider Spoke. Helpline 0333 202 3390

NUTWOOD TALES

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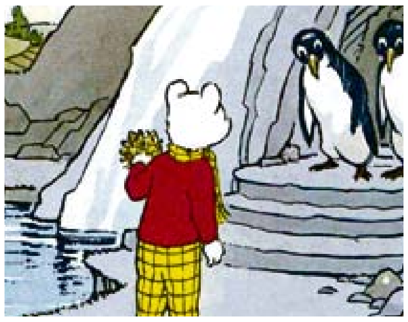
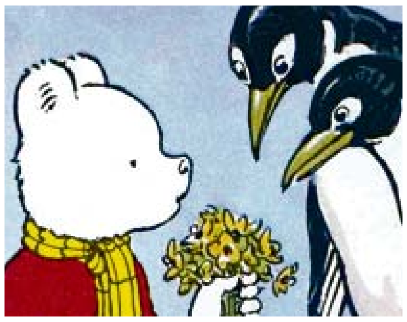
RUPERT AND THE PENGUINS No.6



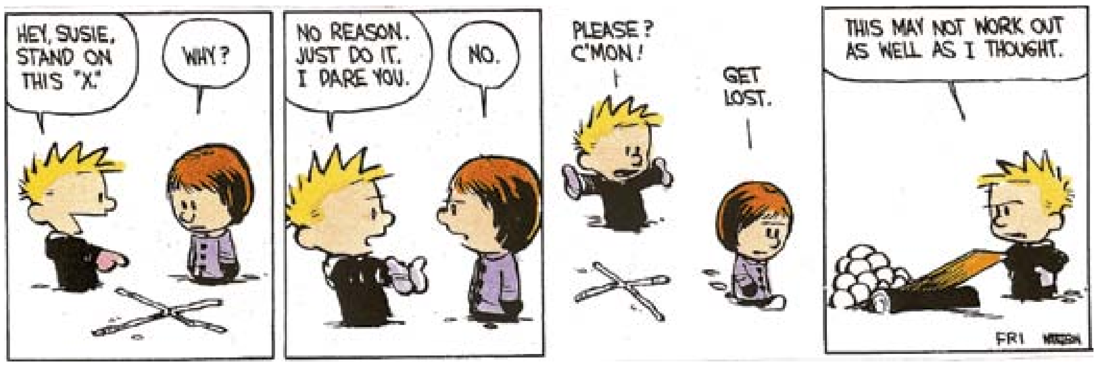
So Rupert, trying to be brave,
Moves slowly closer to the cave.

At his bright flowers the penguins gaze.
"D-do you like them?" Rupert says.



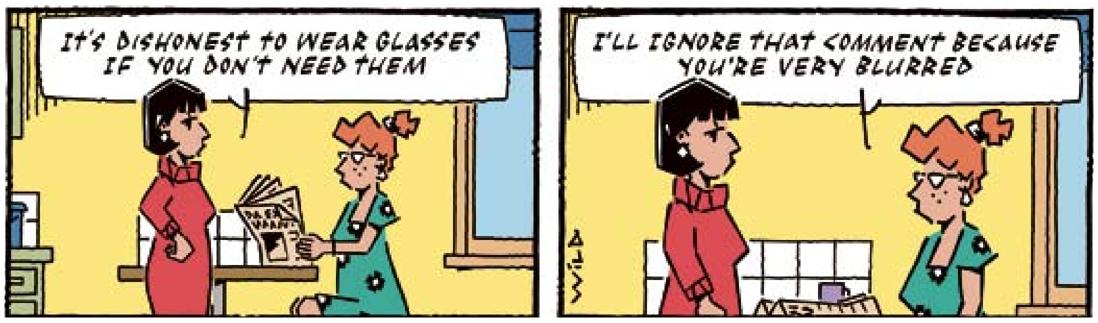
Moving slowly so as not to alarm them, Rupert makes his way to within a few feet of the cave. Though the guards look stern they stay calm, and after a few moments' hesitation, the little bear goes right up to them at the mouth of the cave. He knows they have been watching his every move closely, but when he gets near he notices that they are staring at the bunch of kingcups he is carrying still. "D-do you like them?" he asks nervously.

CALVIN AND HOBBES
BILL WATTERSON



HEY, SUSIE, STAND ON THIS "X."
WHY?
NO REASON. JUST DO IT. I DARE YOU.
NO.
PLEASE? C'MON!
GET LOST.
THIS MAY NOT WORK OUT AS WELL AS I THOUGHT.
FRI

FAITH, HOPE AND SUE
LISA WILD



IT'S DISHONEST TO WEAR GLASSES IF YOU DON'T NEED THEM
I'LL IGNORE THAT COMMENT BECAUSE YOU'RE VERY BLURRED
WILD

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Dryer mode quickly dries clothes, and auto mode intelligently adjusts fan speed to maintain your chosen humidity level. Whisper-quiet operation ensures it won't disturb your home, making it ideal for bedrooms, living areas, or utility rooms. Two fan speeds and a 24-hour timer provide simple, flexible control.

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Compact, lightweight, and equipped with a handle and 360° rotating wheels, it's easy to move wherever needed. Its small footprint allows it to fit neatly in corners or storage spaces, keeping your home comfortable without taking up much room.

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- ✓ Low noise operation at 36 decibels
- ✓ Child lock
- ✓ Overflow protection
- ✓ Castor wheels and carry handles for easy mobility
- ✓ Dimensions: H41.3 x W22 x D28.4 cm

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AT A GLANCE

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FTSE ALL SHARE	5415.8	▼	-1.2
Shares Traded	9247.1 million		

POPULAR SHARES ON THE RISE

Aviva	690½	+11½
BAE Systems	2023	+97
Barclays	484¾	+5¼
BT Group	183	+1
Centrica	176¾	+¾
HSBC Holdings	1195½	+4½
Int Consolidated Airlines	436	+4
Lloyds Banking Group	100	+1¼
Marks & Spencer Group	344¾	+16¼
NatWest Group	644¼	+11¾
Rolls-Royce Holdings	1272½	+13½
Saga	438	+25
Unilever	4665	+34
Vodafone Group	103¾	+¼
Whitbread	2618	+55

POPULAR SHARES ON THE SLIDE

Abrdn	208¼	-1¾
AstraZeneca	14176	-48
BP	415¾	-2½
Convatec Group	242¾	-1
GSK	1891	-10½
Haleon	372	-1½
National Grid	1183	-1½
Sainsbury (J)	329	-7½
Shell	2562	-93½
Tesco	422	-30½

WORLD MARKETS

WALL STREET	49266.1	▲	+270.0
TOKYO	51117.3	▼	-844.7
HONG KONG	26149.3	▼	-309.6
GERMANY	25127.5	▲	+5.2
FRANCE	8243.5	▲	+9.6

STERLING VALUE

Dollar	1.343	▼	-0.002
Yen	210.741	▼	-0.228
Euro	1.153	▶	0.000

DOLLAR VALUE

Dollar/Yen	156.870	▲	+0.1103
Dollar/Euro	0.858	▲	+0.0015

COMMODITIES

GOLD($)	▲	4455.72
KRUGERRAND(£)	▲	3314.36
SILVER(pence)	▼	5635.94
BRENT CRUDE($)	▲	60.99

OTHER INDICATORS

Base rate	3.75%
Halifax mortgage rate	5.95%
Retail Price Index	+3.8% (CPI +3.2%)
House price Index	+1.7%
Unemployment	1,832,000

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Canada	1.82 dollar
China	8.81 renminbi
Czech Rep.	26.25 koruna
Denmark	8.17 krone
Eurozone	1.13 euro
Hong Kong	9.85 dollar
Hungary	415.57 forint
Israel	4.01 shekel
Japan	202.16 yen
Jordan	0.89 dinar
Mexico	22.90 peso
New Zealand	2.27 dollar
Norway	13.11 krone
Poland	4.61 zloty
Saudi Arabia	4.80 riyal
South Africa	21.28 rand
Sweden	11.78 krona
Switzerland	1.04 franc
Thailand	40.57 baht
Turkey	53.84 lira
United States	1.32 dollar

Signs of hope despite house prices hitting six-month low

By **Vicky Shaw**

THE average house price stood at £297,755 last month following six months of falls but property experts say the signs are good for a rebound.

Halifax revealed property values dropped 0.6% – £1,789 – from November, leaving them just above June's average of £297, 755.

The bank's mortgage chief Amanda Bryden said: "Overall activity levels were resilient over the last year and broadly in line with the pre-pandemic average. Various forces are poised to somewhat buoy the market heading into 2026."

These include mortgage rate cuts following uncertainty over the Budget and the usual new year boost to the market.

Ms Bryden said flattening employment rates and the slowing of wage inflation were still a drag on demand but added: "We expect a modest rise in house prices during the year of between 1% and 3%."

Halifax said average annual values rose just 0.3% in 2025. Northern Ireland bucked the trend, with a 7.5% increase, while London was the biggest loser, with 1.3% knocked off average prices.

However, Rightmove says it had its busiest Boxing Day yet, and the most popular searches of its site were for smaller properties with two bedrooms or fewer, often targeted by first-time buyers.

The South East and East of England and London were top locations.

Halifax mortgage chief Ms Bryden

Bricks and mortar estates agents say they are also seeing demand building. Amy Reynolds, head of sales at London-based Antony Roberts, said: "There are clear signs that the market is on a more positive footing. "We've seen a genuine post-Budget bounce."

Nicky Stevenson, managing director at Fine & Country, said: "From a buyer's point of view, this kind of market can work in their favour.

"Prices aren't racing ahead, mortgage rates have eased back from their highs, and wages have continued to improve."

Jonathan Hopper, CEO of Garrington Property Finders, said: "Better value and abundant choice are pulling buyers in and property portals and estate agents have seen a busy start to the year – though prices are likely to creep, rather than career, back into growth over coming months."

SMILES IN THE AISLES AS TESCO SOARS

Retailer Tesco saw off intense competition from its cut-price rivals

TESCO has hailed its highest market share for more than a decade as it notched up a rise in festive sales despite "intense" competition.

The UK's biggest grocery chain reported a 3.3% rise in UK and Ireland like-for-like sales over the six weeks to January 3, with growth of 3.2% in the UK and 3.8% across Ireland. That strong festive showing means it is now on track for annual profits at the upper end of its guidance for between £2.9billion and £3.1bn.

Aarin Chiekrie, of Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "Tesco delivered for shoppers and investors alike over the festive season."

The only blot was the performance at its wholesale business, Booker, "due to the long-running decline in tobacco sales".

M&S's fashion line took a hit

Top Marks as shoppers tuck into its festive fare

MARKS & Spencer has cheered a record number of shoppers over Christmas as festive food sales jumped.

However the retailer's fashion and homeware division was squeezed by the impact of last year's cyber attack.

M&S revealed that both the value and volume of food sales increased in the lead-up to Christmas, with shoppers spending more and putting items in their baskets. Food sales, led by festive ranges, grew by 5.6%.

Value-for-money ranges soared by a fifth as availability of the lines increased.

But the group's fashion, home and beauty division failed to keep pace, with sales dipping by 2.9% year on year. M&S said online sales growth was offset by less spending in stores, which it partly attributed to "reduced high street footfall".

Looking ahead, the firm aims to "reshape" the business for growth in an "uncertain consumer environment".

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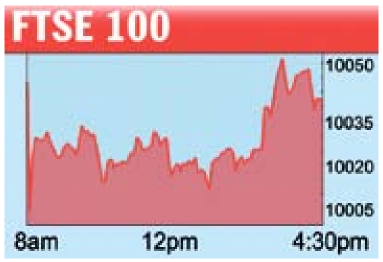
			52 WEEK	
COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	HIGH	LOW
3i Group	3150#	-31	4459	2999
A.B. Foods	1850#	-301	2337	1841½
Admiral Group	†			
Airtel Africa	364¼	-8½	375	114½
Alliance Trust	1294		1324	1050
Anglo American	3132	-18	3257	2003¾
Antofagasta	3336	-51	3542	1383
Ashtead Group	5484#	+10	5538	3659
AstraZeneca	14176	-48	14292	9667
Auto Trader	571¾#	+3¼	908½	568½
Aviva	690½	+11½	692½	468¾
Babcock International	1450#	+9	1478	485¾
BAE Systems	2023	+97	2069	1180½
Barclays	484¾	+5¼	488½	241¾
Barratt Development	379	-6	482¼	350
Beazley Group	822½	+16½	973	769
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4022	+16	4324	3462
BP	415¾	-2½	476¼	331¾
British Amer.Tob	4010#	+44	4421	2905
British Land	415½#	-½	420½	321¼
BT Group	183#	+1	222¾	138¼
Bunzl	2046	+14	3452	2008
Burberry Group	1335	-4½	1371½	627¾
Centrica	176¾	+¾	180	132¼
Coca-Cola HBC	3918	+206	4034	2708
Compass Group	2356	+23	2843	2249
Convatec Group	242¾	-1	295½	221¼
CRH	9250	+42	9512	6142
Croda International	2655	-71	3383	2465
DCC	4414	-84	5600	4386
Diageo	1602	+25	2555	1577
Diploma	5525	-90	5650	3624
EasyJet	505½	+¾	587¾	427½
Entain	756¼	+12½	1022	501¼
Experian Group	3408#	-36	4088	3091
F&C Inv Tst	1258#	-7	1267	962
Flutter Entert.	15955	+245	23630	14670
Fresnillo	3440	-60	3678	644½
Games Workshop	18410#	-40	19840	12410
GlaxoSmithKline	1891#	-10½	1908½	1264
Glencore	413	-9¾	428	230
Haleon	372	-1½	415¼	326½
Halma	3628#	-32	3680	2360
Hikma	1550	-17	2340	1507
Hiscox	1399	+11	1429	1035
HSBC Holdings	1195½	+4½	1217½	713¼
IMI	2616		2634	1606
Imperial Brands	3020	+16	3312	2579
Informa	890½	-2¾	993½	640¼
InterContinental Htl	10157	-3418	10305¾	5526¼
Intermediate Cap.Grp	2068#	-32	2450	1569
Intertek Group	4618	+22	5385	4064
Intl Consolidated Airlines	436	+4	437½	224½
JD Sports	84	+1¼	104½	63¼
Kingfisher	326½	-3¼	330½	228¼
Land Securities	645#	+½	650	499½
Legal & General	265	+3	265½	215¼
Lloyds Banking Grp	100	+1¼	100½	53
London & Stamford Prop.	197½#	+1½	204½	170½
London Stock Ex	8856	-34	12095	8138
M&G	296	+¼	297¼	172¾
Marks & Spencer	344¾#	+16¼	411¼	318½
Melrose	624	-6¾	680	386
Mondi	903½	-12¼	1326	819
National Grid	1183#	-1½	1195¼	910¾
NatWest Group	644¼	+11¾	665½	374½
Next	14265	-15	14580	9028
Pearson	1056½	-½	1379	984½
Pershing Square Hold	4616	+12	5090	3244
Persimmon	1391	-½	1406	1037½
Phoenix Group	743½	+11	746	479½
Prudential	1160½	-3½	1195½	595¼
Reckitt Benckiser	6170	+116	6182	4633
RELX	3148	+6	4135	2972
Rentokil Initial	465½	+1	465½	309½
Rightmove	508	+3½	823¾	503¼
Rio Tinto	6194	-64	6291	4117
Rolls-Royce Group	1272½	+13½	1286½	563½
Sage Group	1069#	-13	1348	1050
Sainsbury (J)	329	-7½	355¾	228¾
Schroders	408¾	-5	428¼	289¼
Scottish Mortgage	1201	-9	1214½	815¼
SEGRO	738¾	-4¾	745½	599
Severn Trent	2890#	+5	2916	2338
Shell	2562	-93½	2931½	2291½
Smith & Nephew	1269	+14	1435	937¾
Smiths Group	2442	-20	2550	1687
Smurfit Kappa	3136	+160	4495	2558
Spirax-Sarco	6940	-10	8190	5445
SSE	2267#	-39	2326	1463½
St James's Place	1436	+3	1453	791
Standard Chartered	1806½	+16½	1855½	878¾
Tesco	422	-30½	475½	314½
Unilever	4665	+34	6177½	4584½
United Utilities	1236½#	+4½	1242½	937½
Vodafone Group	103¾#	+¼	104¼	64
Weir Group	2950	-20	2990	1984
Whitbread	2618	+55	3274	2335



Shares slump for Primark's owner

PRIMARK owner Associated British Foods issued a profit warning after a "difficult" Christmas period.

Shares were down 12% in early trading yesterday as the group revealed like-for-like UK sales at the clothing chain were up about 1.7% in the 16 weeks to January 3 but fell 5.7% across Europe.

It said: "Overall, Primark's sales growth in the period was below our previous expectations and we now expect sales growth in the first half of 2026 to be in the low single digits.

"In a difficult trading environment, we increased markdowns to manage inventory levels effectively, which impacted profitability."

The group – which also own grocery brands Kingsmill and Twinings – said it now expects annual group-wide underlying earnings to be below the previous year.

+ BG + Barclays + BT + Centrica + Dixons Carphone + First Group + HSBC + Kingfisher + Marks & Spencer + Next + Prudential + Rolls-Royce + Sainsburys + Tesco + Unilever + Vodafone + Whitbread + WPP

SHARES AT A GLANCE

Aerospace & Defence

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Avon Rubber	1876	+18	2180	1338
Babcock International	1450#	+9	1478	485¾
BAE Systems	2023	+97	2069	1180½
Chemring Group	510	+6	593	297½
QinetiQ Group	485#	-6¼	572	361
Rolls-Royce Group	1272½	+13½	1286½	563½
Senior	221½	+6	230	115¾

Alternative Energy

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Porvair	836	-8	856	626

Banks

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barclays	484¾	+5¼	488½	241¾
Bco Santander	879	+2	895	377½
Close Brothers	504½	-14	550½	208
HSBC Holdings	1195½	+4½	1217½	713¼
Investec	566	+½	596	414
Lloyds Banking Grp	100	+1¼	100½	53
Metro Bank	124¾	-1	133½	81
NatWest Group	644¼	+11¾	665½	374½
Paragon Group	877	+9	970	686½
Standard Chartered	1806½	+16½	1855½	878¾

Beverages

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barr (AG)	625	+7	711	558
Coca-Cola HBC	3918	+206	4034	2708
Diageo	1602	+25	2555	1577

Chemicals

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Carclo	56½	+¼	80	21
Croda International	2655	-71	3383	2465
Elementis	169¾	-½	176½	115
Johnson Matthey	2264#	-34	2324	1156
Synthomer	62¾	-1¼	158¼	46
Treatt	220	+10	450	186½
Victrex	671	+10	1066	589

Construction & Materials

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Balfour Beatty	715	-9½	724½	390½
Costain Group	164¼	+4¼	168	86
CRH	9250	+42	9512	6142
Dialight	350	-11	366¾	89
Galliford Try	541	+12	541	321
Gleeson (MJ)	418	+8	538	320
Keller Group	1714		1724	1240
Kier Group	227	+½	231½	115¼
Marshalls	176¾	-2	293	162
Morgan Sindall	4860	-40	4975	2945
Severfield-Rowen	29½	+1	52¼	19
Smart (J) & Co.	132½#		132½	110

Electricity

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Drax Group	889½	+9	893	536½
SSE	2267#	-39	2326	1463½
Telecom Plus	1358	-20	2085	1340

Electronic & Electrical Equipment

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Acal	601#	-1	738	486
Halma	3628#	-32	3680	2360
Oxford Instruments	2125#	-60	2190	1500
Renishaw	3645	-70	3725	2145
TT Electronics	110½		154	73
XP Power	896	+11	1314	621

Equity Investment Instruments

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aberdeen Asian Sml	375	-1	380	256
Aberforth Smll.Co.	1600	+6	1606	1212
Acorn Income				
Albion Tech.& Gen. VCT	66		71	65½
Alliance Trust	1294		1324	1050
Aurora Inv.Tst.	274	+1	276	212½
AVI Global Tst	258½		266½	202
Baillie Gifford Japan	914	+3	951	657
Baillie Gifford Shin Nip	131½	+½	136½	95½
Bankers Inv.Tst	134¾	-½	135½	101
Baronsmead VCT.2	48½		52	46½
BH Macro GBP	404	+1½	414	371½
Biotech Growth Trust	1245	+5	1285	620
BlackRock Mining	886	+7	898	406½
Bluehone AiM VCT2	28¼#		31	28¼
British Assets Tst	27½	+¾	49¼	26¼
Brunner Inv.Tst.	1474	-4	1488	1140
Caledonia Inv.	381#	-½	391½	334½
City Natural Res.Yld	361		367	165¾
City Of London	538	+1	540	411½
Dunedin Ent.IT.				
Dunedin Income	308	+1	309	262
Edin Wwide Inv	226	-3½	231	143
Edin.Inv.Tst.	825	-6	839	680
Edin.US Tracker	380#		380¼	289½
Elderstreet VCT	38¾		41	36¾
F&C Cap&Inc.	349	+1	350	287
F&C Inv Tst	1258#	-7	1267	962
F&C Smaller Cos	179½#	+½	179¾	136½
F&C US Smaller Companies	1395	-10	1522½	1115
Fidelity Asian	608	-6	628	454
Fidelity European	424	-1½	431	338½
Fidelity Special	422#		423½	295½
Finsbury Gwth&In	824	-1	962	795
Foresight Tech.VCT	65½		75½	62
Genesis E.M.F.	1098	-2	1112	632
Graphite Ent	1504		1600	1070
Hansa Tst 'A'	269	+1	272	190
Hansa Tst Plc	270		278	192½
Henderson Far Est	245	-1½	253½	190½
Henderson High Inc	190½#		191½	151
Herald Inv.Tst.	2460		2560	1738
HGCapital Tst.	507	+2	538	448
HSBC Infrastructure	118	+¼	125¼	106
Impax Env.Mkt.	400½	-1	416½	310½
Int.Biotech.Tst.	968#	-2	996	480
International Public	126½	+½	127¾	107¾
Invesco Asia	439#	-4	447	300
Invesco Perp UK	374	+1	386	313½
JPM American	1120	-2	1186	869
JPM Asian	470	+2	470	331½
JPM Claverhouse	880	-2	886	660
JPM Emerg Mkt	142½		143½	95
JPM Euro Sml Co.	611#	+3	612	444½
JPM Global Emerging	174½#	-1½	176	118½
JPM Indian	1016	-6	1106	904
JPM Japanese	719#	+1	747	493
JPM Overseas IT	581	-2	610	480
JPM Smaller Co	328	+2	338	253
JPM US Sml Co.	411	+2	516	338
Jupiter Euro.	927	+2	959	757
JZ Capital Partners	189		220	184
Law Debenture	1092#		1094	788
Lowland Invest Co	163#		164½	114½
Majedie Inv.	273		280	230
Manchester&Lon.	815	-1	944	512
Martin Currie Prtflo Tst	359#	+1	386	295
Maven Income And Growth VCT	33½#		38	33½
Mercantile Inv Tst	262#	+2	262¼	202½
Merchants Tst	603	+1	606	474
Mid Wynd Int.	784		836	664
Monks Inv.Tst.	1550		1550	1036
Montanaro Euro Tst	167½	+½	183½	138
Montanaro Uk	102½	+1½	106½	87¾
Murray Inc.Tst.	924		938	754
Murray Int.Tst	330½#		335	239
New India	774	-10	832	686
New Star Inv.Tst	126	-3	129	100
North Atl.Smlr.Tst				
Northern 2 VCT	53½#		57	52½
Northern Venture	56½#		58½	55½
Oxford Tech 2 VCT	6½		7	5½
Pacific Assets	373	-2	378	302
Pacific Horizon	824	-3	829	507
Pantheon Int.	380½	+1	382	266
Pershing Square Hold	4616	+12	5090	3244
Polar Cap.Tech	471½	-7½	481¼	255½
RCM Technology Trust	535	-10	548	307
RIT Capital Partners	2215	-5	2275	1722
Ruffer Investment	295½		304	264½
Schroder Asia	688#	-1	693	461½
Schroder Inc.	351#	-1	354	255
Schroder Japan	322#	-1	325	209
Schroder UK	206	+1	209	158½
Schroder UK M&S	720	-4	724	520
Scottish American	514		525	454½
Scottish Mortgage	1201	-9	1214½	815¼
Shires Inc.	307½#	+½	316½	222
Small Comp Div.Tst	137#	-1	161	124
Standard Life Equity	405#	-2	407½	288½
Standard Life UK Sml	513	+4	531	426
Temple Bar	379½	-1	386½	258
Templeton Emrg.	246#	-½	246½	151¾
The European Inv.Tst	109½#	-½	110	84
Throgmorton Tst.	631	+1	632	469
TR Euro.Growth	222	+½	222½	163
TR Prop. IT	329#	+3½	338½	277½
Witan Pacific	315	-1	322	214
Wwide Healthcare	388½#	+2	397	265½

Financial Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
3i Group	3150#	-31	4459	2999
3i Infrastructure	377½#	-1½	381½	301
Abrdn	208¼	-1¾	212¼	123¾
Ashmore Group	178	+½	193	125
Guinness Peat Group	83¼	-2	96	68¼
IG Group	1319	-5	1342	913
Intermediate Cap.Grp.	2068#	-32	2450	1569
International Pers Fin	235½	+½	237	121½
IP Group	56¾	-½	65	34¾
Jupiter Fund Man.	171¼	-¼	173½	68
Liontrust Asset Man	237	+5½	458	223
London Stock Ex.	8856	-34	12095	8138
M&G	296	+¼	297¼	172¾
Man Group	247¼	-3½	254¾	154¾
Provident Financial	117	-1	128½	45
Rathbone Brothers	1976	-4	1992	1406
S & U	2220	-30	2250	1330
Schroders	408¾	-5	428¼	289¼
St James's Place	1436	+3	1453	791
Tullett Prebon	252½		311½	228
Walker Crips Group	13¼		16	7½

Fixed Line Telecommunications

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Airtel Africa	364¼	-8½	375	114½
BT Group	183#	+1	222¾	138¼

Food & Drug Retailers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Greggs	1657	-116	2626	1418
Marks & Spencer	344¾#	+16¼	411¼	318½
Ocado	267	-7	395½	172¼
Sainsbury (J)	329	-7½	355¾	228¾
Tesco	422	-30½	475½	314½

Food Producers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
A.B. Foods	1850#	-301	2337	1841½
Anglo-Eastern	1380	-20	1425	602
Carr's Milling	133		157	101½
Cranswick	4870#	+10	5490	4625
Glanbia	1275¼	+52	1370¾	789½
Greencore Group	243½#	-3½	278½	169¼
Kerry Grp 'A' Shs	6176¾	-156¼	8762	6176¾
Premier Foods	169	-2	214½	167
REA Holdings	128	+2½	128¼	61½
Tate & Lyle	360½	-5¼	661	355¼

Gas, Water & Multiutilities

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Centrica	176¾	+¾	180	132¼
National Grid	1183#	-1½	1195¼	910¾
Pennon Group	547	-3½	559	387½
Severn Trent	2890#	+5	2916	2338
United Utilities	1236½#	+4½	1242½	937½

General Industrials

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Bunzl	2046	+14	3452	2008
Goodwin	22500	-900	23700	6180
Melrose	624	-6¾	680	386
Mondi	903½	-12¼	1326	819
Smiths Group	2442	-20	2550	1687
Smurfit Kappa	3136	+160	4495	2558

General Retailers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
ASOS	303½	+8½	436½	218½
Auto Trader	571¾#	+3¼	908½	568½
B&M Europ Value Ret	170½	+5¼	348½	155¼
Caffyns	425		500	415
Dixons Carphone	132#	+1	146	82
Dunelm	1160	+6	1232	858½
Frasers Group	694	+4	770	546
Halfords Group	144¼#	+1¼	174½	116¼
Headlam Group	47	+½	142	44¾
Howden Joinery	841	+1½	914½	679½
Inchcape	775½	+5½	808	638
JD Sports	84	+1¼	104½	63¼
Kingfisher	326½	-3¼	330½	228¼
Next	14265	-15	14580	9028
Pets At Home	200#	+4½	273¼	191¾
RM Group	113	+½	118	82
Topps Tiles	45¼#	-1¼	50	29
WH Smith	635½	+5½	1307	613½

Health Care Equipment & Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Convatec Group	242¾	-1	295½	221¼
Flying Brands	+¾		2	+½
Smith & Nephew	1269	+14	1435	937¾

Household Goods & Home Construction

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Barratt Development	379	-6	482¼	350
Bellway	2810#	+44	2982	2166
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4022	+16	4324	3462
Bovis Homes	673½	+6¾	698	510¾
Mcbride	146	+½	159	99¼
Persimmon	1391	-½	1406	1037½
Reckitt Benckiser	6170	+116	6182	4633
Taylor Wimpey	108		123¼	93

Industrial Engineering

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Bodycote	737	+7	739½	460½
Hill & Smith	2270	-25	2300	1530
IMI	2616		2634	1606
Morgan Crucible	229½	+4½	274	177½
Northgate	389#	+1½	395	273½
Rotork	337	-1¾	352	275¾
Spirax-Sarco	6940	-10	8190	5445
Vesuvius	421¼	+5½	422½	313¾
Weir Group	2950	-20	2990	1984
Xaar	106½	-3½	145	59

Industrial Metals & Mining

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Castings	275½	-½	319	234
Evraz				
Ferrexpo	72½	-1	110¾	44¼

Industrial Transportation

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Braemar Shipping Serv	222#	-3	278	201
Clarkson	3985	+45	4505	2995
FirstGroup	188¼	-½	233	146½
Fisher (J) & Sons	372		403	285

Leisure Goods

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Games Workshop	18410#	-40	19840	12410
Photo-Me Intl.	148	-3½	230	146¼

Life Insurance

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aviva	690½	+11½	692½	468¾
Chesnara	303½	+6½	303½	212¾
Legal & General	265	+3	265½	215¼
Phoenix Group	743½	+11	746	479½
Prudential	1160½	-3½	1195½	595¼

Media

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
4imprint Group	3975	-80	6030	3035
Bloomsbury Publish.	478		672	468
Future	523½	+3½	1029	512
Informa	890½	-2¾	993½	640¼
ITV	80	-¼	87¾	66¼
Pearson	1056½	-½	1379	984½
Reach	55½	+1¼	88¼	53
STV Group	117	+3	218	103
Wilmington Group	295	+2	388	289½
WPP Group	339¼	-1	787¾	269

Mining

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Anglo American	3132	-18	3257	2003¾
Anglo Pacific	118¾#	+1	118¾	50
Antofagasta	3336	-51	3542	1383
BHP Billiton	2320	-48	2403	1609½
Endeavour Mining	4098	+172	4124	1485
Fresnillo	3440	-60	3678	644½
Gem Diamonds	2¾		12	2½
Glencore	413	-9¾	428	230
Hochschild Mining	514½	+24	530	168
Kenmare Res.	256		436	227
Petra Diamonds	17¾	+¾	30½	10½
Rio Tinto	6194	-64	6291	4117

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Mobile Telecommunications

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Vodafone Group	103¾#	+¼	104¼	64

Nonequity Investment Instruments

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Oryx Int.Gwth.	1237½	+5	1392½	1042½
Rights &Iss.Inc	2035	+15	2280	1670

Nonlife Insurance

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Admiral Group				
Beazley Group	822½	+16½	973	769
Hiscox	1399	+11	1429	1035
Lancashire	608	+1	694	523

Oil & Gas Producers

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
BP	415¾	-2½	476¼	331¾
Cairn Energy	225	+1	331½	183
Enquest	10		16½	9¾
Gulf Keystone Pet.	172½	-3½	224½	148¾
Harbour Energy	186		294	151¼
Shell	2562	-93½	2931½	2291½
Soco International	21#	+¼	27½	18
Tullow Oil	6½		23¾	4

Oil Equipment, Services & Distribution

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Hunting	388	+9½	396	246½
John Wood Group	24¼	+½	72½	17¼

Personal Goods

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Burberry Group	1335	-4½	1371½	627¾
PZ Cussons	71	-1¾	88¼	66
Unilever	4665	+34	6177½	4584½

Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
AstraZeneca	14176	-48	14292	9667
Genus	2565	-70	2715	1424
GlaxoSmithKline	1891#	-10½	1908½	1264
Haleon	372	-1½	415¼	326½
Hikma	1550	-17	2340	1507
Ovoca Gold	1¼			
Oxford Biomedica	751	+23	765	232½

Real Estate Investment & Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Boot (Henry)	220	+1	237	196
Cardiff Property	2700		2700	2530
CLS Holdings	60½		78½	53½
Foxtons	58½		68¼	52¼
Harworth Group	168	-2½	189½	158½
Mountview Est.	9200		10200	8700
Panther Secs.	285		320	280
Rightmove	508	+3½	823¾	503¼
Savills	1030		1110	871
Wynnstay Props.	875		875	680

Real Estate Investment Trusts

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Big Yellow Group	1058#		1180	848
British Land	415½#	-½	420½	321¼
Capital & Counties	147	+2	161¼	113½
Derwent London	1886	+51	2096	1608
Grainger	197	+6½	228	177½
Great Portland Est.	329½	+2½	363	262
Hammerson	347¼	+4¾	347¼	220½
Helical Bar	193#	+2¾	240	171¾
Land Securities	645#	+½	650	499½
London & Stamford Prop	197½#	+1½	204½	170½
Primary Health	102½	+½	103½	86¼
SEGRO	738¾	-4¾	745½	599
Town Centre	126½#	-1½	149	117
Unite Group	572	+2	879½	510
Value & Income	200¼#	-¾	215	173
Workspace Group	419#	+12½	478½	362

Software & Computer Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Computacenter	3212	+126	3244	2024
Intec Telecom				
Microgen	298½	+3½	344	255
Moneysupermarket	186½		221½	180½
Pendragon	350	-6½	558	296
RELX	3148	+6	4135	2972
Sage Group	1069#	-13	1348	1050
Triad Group	250		400	240

Support Services

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Ashtead Group	5484#	+10	5538	3659
Capita Group	405½	-2	408½	175
DCC	4414	-84	5600	4386
Diploma	5525	-90	5650	3624
Essentra	93		126¼	89¾
Experian Group	3408#	-36	4088	3091
Ferguson	17120#	+360	19470	11670
Hays	51½	-3	88¼	51¼
Intertek Group	4618	+22	5385	4064
Johnson Service	138	-½	159½	122¾
London Security	2850		3800	2750
Macfarlane Group	71¾	-¼	120½	62¾
Mears Group	363½	+3½	417½	311½
Michael Page	223¼	-16½	341¼	219½
Mitie Group	170¾#	-¾	171½	106½
Norish	18½		18¾	14
Paypoint	466	-11	853	438½
Rentokil Initial	465½	+1	465½	309½
Robert Walters	142	+½	324	116
RS Group	640½	-10½	681½	487¼
Serco Group	291½	+3½	295½	147
SIG	10		18	8½
Smiths News	68#	-9	77½	47½
Speedy Hire	25½#	-¼	32¼	18
SThree	181¼	-5½	289½	137½
Travis Perkins	659½	+18½	714	494
Trifast	71		87½	59
Vitec Group	12½		142	11

Technology Hardware & Equipment

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
BATM Advanced	16½		19¾	13

Tobacco

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
British Amer.Tob	4010#	+44	4421	2905
Imperial Brands	3020	+16	3312	2579

Travel & Leisure

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
888 Holdings	22½	+½	74	21
Carnival	2373	+34	2406	1134
Celtic	199		208	142½
Compass Group	2356	+23	2843	2249
Domino's Pizza	179¾	+1	302¾	167¼
EasyJet	505½	+¾	587¾	427½
Entain	756¼	+12½	1022	501¼
Flutter Entert.	15955	+245	23630	14670
Fuller Smith & Turner	738	+6	746	508
Heavitree	220		280	200
InterContinental Htl	10157	+52	10305¾	5526¼
Intl Consolidated Airlines	436	+4	437½	224½
Irish Continental Uts	537½		560	380
Marston's	66¾	+2¾	67½	33¼
Mitchells & Butlers	273	+4½	291½	208½
National Express	22	+¼	78	21
Rank Group	98		160½	77¾
Saga	438	+25	442	111½
Wetherspoon (JD)	759½	+13	804	541
Whitbread	2618	+55	3274	2335

AIM

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Alumasc Group	262½	-1½	395	232
Arbuthnot Banking	880	-10	1100	837½
Boohoo	22	-1	31½	10½
Camellia	5050		6050	4090
Churchill China	325	-7	710	310
CML Microsystems	280	-5	335	210
Colefax Group	965	-10	980	750
CPP Group	79		162	68½
Cropper (James)	395		410	132½
Falkland Islands	249#		316¾	162½
Fevertree Drinks	825	+17	998	611½
Filtronic	170	+5	181	82½
James Halstead	136	+1	181½	133
Mothercare	2½		4¼	2
Mpac Group	320		586	270
Naked Wine	74½	-¼	93½	43
Nichols	958	+18	1465	924
Northamber	31½#	-1	34	26
Portmeirion	97	+½	189	94
Regal Petroleum	15½	-1¼	26½	14½
Rockhopper Exploratn	71		87¾	30½
Ten Alps	47½		73	47½
Titon Holdings	97½		97½	69
Volex	428#	+6	432	198¾
Young & Co Brewery A.	786	+17	992	714

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# Ex-dividend * Ex-rights a Ex-All c Ex-capitalisation † Shares suspended

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Racing

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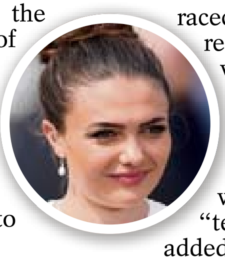
By **David Yates**

NEW ITV YOUTH DRIVE GOES LIVE

DATING and fashion will feature in Friday Night Live on ITV4 tonight – but the driving force behind racing's latest innovation vowed: "The focus will be on the horse."

Megan Nicholls, below, will host the three-and-a-half-hour broadcast featuring seven live races from Wolverhampton, which will play host to DJ sets, speed dating and fashion parades – provided the fixture passes a 9.30am inspection.

But Dom Matcham, whose Invades company has brought thousands of students to the racecourses of Britain, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand, insists the plan is not to alienate racing's old fanbase, but to attract a new one.



While the venture is aimed at an 18-to-25 audience, Matcham said: "If you're an ardent racegoer or you're the first-time person, everyone has got a place on a racecourse and everyone can enjoy it.

"We don't want a message going out that this is just for new fans or partygoers – it's for the existing racing fan, and the potential racing fan. All of our activations stop for the racing – we turn the music off, and we don't do any dates – which forces our customers to focus on the sport.

"It's a racing product – we're coming to a racecourse for a reason, which is to watch the horse."

Matcham admits tonight's show, the first in a series of six, will be a case of "test and learn" but added: "My biggest message to racing, and everyone around it, is to embrace it.

"We are using music, fashion and romance to pull in new customers but the focus is on the horse."

r SATURDAY'S cards at Kempton and Warwick are subject to 2pm inspections today as the weather continues to place the weekend's racing in doubt.

PARTY STARTER
Wolverhampton hosts the first of the televised Friday Night Live fixtures

Abduction ready to seize the day

By **The Scout**
(Melissa Jones)

CHANCE: Jim Goldie

ABDUCTION (7.30, Nap) is fancied to return with top honours from a 580-mile round trip for the Tipping Tom On SBK Bet Feed Handicap.

Trained near Glasgow by Jim Goldie, the eight-year-old has made successful visits to Wolverhampton races on two occasions.

In October 2023, my selection poked his head in front at the right time to land a Class Two handicap with Luke Morris steering.

Down three grades, Britain's busiest jockey is back on board this afternoon and Abduction – then rated 87 – has dropped to an attractive mark, is drawn well and has scored after a break before.

Unlucky at Dunstall Park a week ago, CARGIN BHUI (4.25, nb) has an excellent chance to make amends in the SBK: Dont Settle For Less Handicap for joint trainers David and Nicola Barron.

Newcastle's Bet 10 Get 40 At BetMGM Fillies' Handicap can go to the Adrian Keatley-saddled mare MOSTAR DREAMS (3.30, treble).

Disappointing when fancied for Ayr's Bronze Cup last season, she showed more zip last time out and has more to offer on artificial surfaces.

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NEWCASTLE SKYSPORTSRACING

1.27 MIDNITE BETTING APP HANDICAP
£4,920 (Class 5) 1m 4f 98yds (9 declared)

1	(6)	01/LOLO-	**NATZOR (27) (C)** Lizzie Quinlan 6 10-0	**A Mullen**	61
2	(5)	5L/5450-	**CLANSMAN (208) (D)** L Bailey 8 9-12	**B Garritty**	★76
3	(1)	L/43L26-	**BUNKER BAY (J32)** M Hammond 7 9-8	**A Brookes(3)**	74
4	(7)	31322-2	**CARDINAL POINT (7) (D) (T)** M Bell 4 9-8	**J Bradnam(7)**	74
5	(8)	346524-	**KING CHAOS (12) (F)** R Menzies 5 9-6	**Kaiya Fraser**	74
6	(2)	8L/366L-	**BRUNELLO BREEZE (128) (C&D)** L Bailey 7 9-6	**Jason Watson**	74
7	(3)	31LL23-	**ROYAL BLAZE (11) (C)** Ewan Whillans 5 9-5	**S Gray**	75
8	(4)	176774-	● **ANNANDALE (11) (C)** J Goldie 8 9-3	**P Mulrennan**	72
9	(9)	70/5LL-9	**SHIFTER (8)** W Storey 7 8-9	**Paula Muir(3)**	74

BLINKERS: No. 6 VISOR: No. 4 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 5, 7
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 5, 7.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Cardinal Point, 3 King Chaos, 9-2 Royal Blaze, 7 Bunker Bay, 12 Annandale, 16 Clansman, 20 Brunello Breeze, 25 Shifter, 33 Natzor.

2025: No corresponding meeting.

1.57 BEST ODDS AT BETMGM NOVICE STKS 3YO
£6,480 (3) 1m 2f 42yds (4)

1	(2)		● **ASIA FORCE** K R Burke 9-7	**P-L Jamin**	–
2	(1)	55-	**CHOIR BOY (21)** A Brittain 9-7	**C Hardie**	68
3	(4)	L4-	**LEVEL LOOK (18) (T)** A Balding 9-7	**Jason Watson**	69
4	(3)	6342-	**NEW BAY STAR (29) (F)** C Johnston 9-7	**O Stammers**	★78

CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 4.

SP FORECAST: 5-4 Asia Force, 13-8 New Bay Star, 5 Level Look, 10 Choir Boy.

2.27 BETMGM'S GOLDEN GOALS HANDICAP 3YO
£4,397 (6) 1m 2f 42yds (6)

1	(1)	754613-	**ONYEISI (20) (D,F)** C Johnston 9-9	**Jason Watson**	61
2	(3)	755-6	**PETES DIAMOND (8)** Joey Ramsden 9-4	**A Rawlinson**	64
3	(5)	676-	● **RIDDIKULUS (21)** G Tuer 9-4	**O Stammers**	58
4	(6)	08L385-	**TRUST NO ONE (10) (F) (T)** Lemos Souza 8-13	**Taryn Langley(5)**	★65
5	(4)	L00L-	**SUNDAY SINATRA (18) (T)** Ollie Sangster 8-9	**A Mullen**	56
6	(2)	8094-	**FAMILY VALUES (25) (T)** D Cunha 8-9	**T Kiely-Marshall(5)**	59

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 6 TONGUE STRAP: No. 4.

SP FORECAST: 2 Onyeisi, 4 Riddikulus, 9-2 Trust No One, 5 Sunday Sinatra, Family Values, 12 Petes Diamond.

THE SCOUT

1.27 Annandale	3.30 MOSTAR DREAMS
1.57 Asia Force	4.00 Laurens Dream
2.27 Riddikulus	4.35 What What What
2.57 Five Cay	

2.57 BETMGM RESTRICTED NOVICE STAKES
£5,400 (4) 1m 5yds (5)

1	(3)	22-	**ALBA GU BRATH (27)** C Johnston 3 9-7	**A Mullen**	★79
2	(5)	447-	● **FIVE CAY (14) (T)** Jack Morland 3 9-7	**Taryn Langley(5)**	72
3	(2)	425-	**VIKING GLORY (11)** A Keatley 3 9-7	**O McSweeney**	75
4	(4)	L-	**RED HOUSE (27)** Mrs A Duffield 3 9-3	**C Hardie**	37
5	(1)	L-	**FREEZING HAVANA (11)** Adrian Nicholls 3 8-13	**D Fentiman**	25

TONGUE STRAP: No. 3.

SP FORECAST: 4-9 Alba Gu Brath, 7-2 Viking Glory, 6 Five Cay, 33 Red House, 50 Freezing Havana.

3.30 BETMGM FILLIES' HANDICAP
£6,281 (4) 1m 5yds (6)

1	(1)	183003-	● **MOSTAR DREAMS (44)** A Keatley 5 9-11	**O McSweeney**	89
2	(2)	59L451-	**ENOLA GREY (25) (C&D,F)** G Tutty 6 9-8	**Kaiya Fraser**	85
3	(5)	32631-	**GREAT MATES (48) (T)** M Wigham 4 9-5	**P Mulrennan**	84
4	(6)	L6423-8	**DONNA NOOK (8)** D O'Meara 4 9-3	**Jason Watson**	★90
5	(3)	9/1L24L-	**SOHO SQUARE (50) (C)** E Bethell 4 9-1	**S Gray**	87
6	(4)	231125-	**ELECTRIC AVENUE (25) (C&D)** I Furtado 6 9-1	**C Hardie**	88

VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 6.

SP FORECAST: 7-4 Enola Grey, 5-2 Great Mates, 5 Mostar Dreams, 7 Soho Square, 8 Electric Avenue, 12 Donna Nook.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Paul Mulrennan 14% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** J Goldie 12% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.27 Bunker Bay (cheek pieces, tongue strap), 1.57 New Bay Star (cheek pieces), 2.57 Viking Glory (tongue strap), 3.30 Soho Square (visor), 4.00 Laurens Dream (cheek pieces). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.27 Cardinal Point(hcp). 2.57 Alba Gu Brath. 3.30 Mostar Dreams(hcp). 4.00 Laurens Dream(hcp). **DRAW:** High numbers have a slight advantage over 5f. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Level Look** (1.57) 303 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 4.00 **Eagles Whistle** from P J F Murphy in Ireland to D Bourke.

4.00 BETMGM CLASSIFIED STAKES
£4,397 (6) 7f 14yds (12)

1	(12)	44805-5	**BOSSY PARKER (6) (D)** T & S Barclay 6 9-9	**Z Wheatley(3)**	49
2	(6)	553966-	**EAGLES WHISTLE (111)** D Bourke 6 9-9	**S Gray**	47
3	(8)	614743-	**ELETTARIA (11) (C&D,F)** J Wainwright 7 9-9	**C Hardie**	58
4	(9)	0P0688-	**ESQUE ELEGANCE (43)** Mrs A Duffield 4 9-9	**Lauren Young(5)**	52
5	(3)	546584-	**EVOLUIR (39) (D)** M Hammond 5 9-9	**A Brookes(3)**	53
6	(2)	30766-6	● **LAURENS DREAM (8) (C&D)** M & D Easterby 4 9-9	**B Garritty**	55
7	(7)	85535L-	**MARCELLO SI (24) (C&D)** M Dods 8 9-9	**Rhys Elliott(5)**	53
8	(11)	7L5380-	**OUR NICOLA (21)** D & N Barron 4 9-9	**Kaiya Fraser**	49
9	(4)	64866-5	**RORY (5) (C,D)** J Goldie 8 9-9	**P Mulrennan**	51
10	(5)	3L00L7-	**SOGANNIE (11)** R Carr 5 9-9	**JP Sullivan**	48
11	(10)	563990-	**THE GAY BLADE (24) (C,D)** I Jardine 7 9-9	**A Mullen**	★60
12	(1)	L4LL0-	**WEE NAN (24)** A Brown 4 9-9	**Taryn Langley(5)**	55

BLINKERS: No. 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7.

SP FORECAST: 5-2 Laurens Dream, 4 Elettaria, 6 Rory, The Gay Blade, 8 Evoluir, 10 Bossy Parker, 14 Marcello Si, 16 Eagles Whistle, 20 Others.

4.35 MIDNITE, THE FUTURE OF BETTING H'CAP
£4,397 (6) 5f (10)

1	(6)	3013L-1	**ARLINGTON (5) (C,D)** B Smart 5 9-13(5ex)	**M Slater(7)**	59
2	(7)	40L44-4	● **WHAT WHAT WHAT (5) (C&D,F)** M & D Easterby 4 9-9	**B Garritty**	58
3	(3)	80222-1	**LITTLE MI MI (8) (C&D)** I Jardine 5 9-9	**M Tabti(5)**	63
4	(4)	35735-4	**AUNTIE JO (8)** D O'Meara 4 9-8	**M Winn**	64
5	(5)	31L89-8	**INVINCIBLE ANNICE (8) (C&D)** T Waggott 4 9-7	**Amie Waugh(3)**	54
6	(8)	L3345-6	**HENERY HAWK (8) (C&D)** Miss L Perratt 7 9-7	**Kaiya Fraser**	65
7	(10)	9LLL1-4	**OKAMI (5) (C&D)** P Midgley 6 9-7	**O McSweeney**	61
8	(9)	04160-3	**BISHOP'S GLORY (5) (C)** Joey Ramsden 6 9-2	**P Mulrennan**	64
9	(1)	56092-5	**DESERT MASTER (7) (C&D)** A Brittain 5 9-1	**C Hardie**	61
10	(2)	74867-2	**TOMMYTWOHOOTS (3)** S A Harris 8 9-0	**A Rawlinson**	★66

VISOR: Nos. 2, 8, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 5, 10.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Little Mi Mi, 9-2 Arlington, 6 What What What, 7 Henery Hawk, 8 Bishop's Glory, 10 Okami, Auntie Jo, 12 Desert Master, 14 Others.

RESULTS

FFOS LAS: Soft

12.40—BOSSMAN JACK (H Skelton, 10-11 fav) 1; Starzand (6-5 2nd fav) 2; Emerald Breeze (12-1) 3. 11 ran. 1¾l, 26l. (D Skelton). Tote: £1.91; pl £1.10, £1.10, £3.00. exacta: £2.20. trifecta: £9.50. CSF: £2.51.

1.10—BOBBY'S NELSON (Sean Houlihan, 10-3 jt 2nd fav) 1; Off The Jury (10-3 jt 2nd fav) 2; Jury's In (7-1) 3. 12 ran. 3½l, 10l. (P Hobbs & J White; 11-10 fav Giantsgrave). Tote: £4.34; pl £1.30, £1.10, £2.20. exacta: £15.30. trifecta: £76.40. CSF: £15.03. Non-runner: Big Lou.

1.40—POUR LES FILLES (S Bowen, 12-1) 1; Largy Belter (9-4 2nd fav) 2; H'cap 4 ran. 15l. (M Bowen; evens fav Juby Ball). Tote: £13.00; exacta: £34.30. trifecta: £37.20. CSF: £37.01.

2.10—FRESH SPECULATION (D Bass, 9-2 jt 2nd fav) 1; Pachacuti (11-2) 2; Our Dylan (12-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 1¼l, 6l. (H Daly; 3-1 fav There Runs Mary). Tote: £6.30; pl £2.70, £2.20, £4.00. exacta: £37.40. tricast: £280.85. trifecta: £254.60. CSF: £29.59. Non-runner: Colonial Empire.

2.40—ITSEEMSLIKEIT (J Tudor, 5-2 fav) 1; Karuma Grey (33-1) 2; Hunter Legend (10-3 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 3¾l, 8l. (D Pipe). Tote: £3.50; pl £1.60, £4.50, £1.20. exacta: £93.90. tricast: £276.96. trifecta: £463.30. CSF: £59.71.

3.10—OSTERBERG (Harry Atkins, 9-1) 1; Pipas Lescribaa (25-1) 2; Lady Henrietta (11-2) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 1¾l, 4¼l. (M Keighley; 10-3 fav Nedzor). Tote: £11.00; pl £3.10, £7.20, £1.80. exacta: £242.10. tricast: £1353.20. trifecta: £2147.30. CSF: £197.93.

3.40—EL GAVILAN (R Patrick, 5-1) 1; Copper Cove (5-2 fav) 2; Getaway With You (11-2) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 8½l, 12l. (C Boultbee-Brooks). Tote: £6.00; pl £1.90, £1.50, £1.90. exacta: £23.70. tricast: £70.90. trifecta: £124.10. CSF: £18.58.

Placepot: £290.60
(Race 1) 3, 2, 5; (2) 2, 9, 6; (3) 1; (4) 2, 8, 6; (5) 3, 5, 1; (6) 3, 1, 7;
Quadpot: £165.80

TAUNTON: Good

1.00—CALVINO (H Cobden, 6-4 fav) 1; Kapitein Kool (3-1) 2; Bright Legend (7-4 2nd fav) 3. 7 ran. 3l, 12l. (P Nicholls). Tote: £2.50; pl £1.30, £1.60. exacta: £6.20. trifecta: £10.00. CSF: £6.99.

1.30—ONLYFORFRANKIE (J J Burke, 1-3 fav) 1; Babyken (7-2 2nd fav) 2; Arnie Moon (66-1) 3. 9 ran. 17l, 4½l. (A Ralph). Tote: £1.34; pl £1.10, £1.10, £8.20. exacta: £2.30. trifecta: £29.90. CSF: £2.14. Non-runner: Constantinian.

2.00—CREST OF STARS (S Twiston-Davies, evens fav) 1; Explode (13-8 2nd fav) 2; Monsun Climate (5-1) 3. 8 ran. 7½l, 17l. (A Honeyball). Tote: £2.00; pl £1.10, £1.10, £1.50. exacta: £3.10. trifecta: £8.10. CSF: £3.23. Non-runners: Bee's Kiss, Pourquoi Pas Papa.

2.30—HYPOTENUS (Taylor Fisher, 11-4 2nd fav) 1; Irish Chorus (7-2) 2; Juggernaut (6-5 fav) 3. H'cap 5 ran. 8l, 8½l. (J Tickle). Tote: £3.75; pl £1.70, £1.60. exacta: £11.30. trifecta: £19.30. CSF: £12.12. Non-runner: Senor Diaz.

3.00—BRAVE KNIGHT (F Keighley, 13-2) 1; Celtic Art (18-5 2nd fav) 2; Bluegrass (28-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 2½l, ½l. (P Nicholls; 10-3 fav Him Malaya). Tote: £7.50; pl £5.00, £2.10, £1.90. exacta: £43.70. tricast: £619.87. trifecta: £882.90. CSF: £30.22.

3.30—UNEXPECTED PARTY (Miss H Palin, 11-10 fav) 1; Fan De Blues (22-1) 2; Dorset Diamond (22-1) 3. 9 ran. 4½l, 7l. (D Skelton). Tote: £2.10; pl £1.10, £3.70, £4.20. exacta: £25.80. trifecta: £230.60. CSF: £30.85.

4.00—BROOMFIELD GALE (R David, 9-2) 1; Best Night (14-1) 2; Ruler Of The River (10-1) 3. H'cap 7 ran. 7½l, 6l. (Daisy Hitchins; 11-4 fav Jukebox Annie). Tote: £4.60; pl £2.40, £3.60. exacta: £30.30. tricast: £299.02. trifecta: £193.10. CSF: £38.58. Non-runners: Bluenose Belle, East End Girl.East End Girl; Rule 4 applies to All Bets, deduct 20p in the pound

Placepot: £12.30
(Race 1) 4, 1; (2) 5, 10, 1; (3) 2, 8, 5; (4) 1, 2; (5) 1, 4, 2; (6) 3, 8, 7;
Quadpot: £6.50

CHELMSFORD CITY: Standard

5.30—EVENEPOEL (L Morris, 7-2 2nd fav) 1; Sparksmith (5-2 fav) 2; Allegrino (9-1) 3. 9 ran. shd, ¾l. (A Watson). Tote: £4.33; pl £1.60, £1.40, £2.10. exacta: £13.50. trifecta: £75.90. CSF: £11.83. Non-runners: Arishka's Dream, In Denial, Roccobear. Roccobear| Rule 4 applies to All Bets, deduct 5p in the pound

6.00—DUBAI MAGIC (L Morris, 9-2) 1; Poetic Jack (9-4 fav) 2; Little Miss Magic (22-1) 3. 12 ran. ¾l, ¾l. (M Crawley). Tote: £5.70; pl £1.60, £1.60, £5.40. exacta: £21.10. trifecta: £282.50. CSF: £14.43.

6.30—SIR RODNEYREDBLOOD (M Ghiani, 10-1) 1; Daley T (50-1) 2; Analytical Engine (11-4 fav) 3. H'cap 7 ran. 4¼l, ¾l. (J R Jenkins). Tote: £11.00; pl £3.30, £9.90. exacta: £346.10. tricast: £1737.73. trifecta: £1740.60. CSF: £306.39. Non-runners: Genius Mistake, Tommytwohoots.

7.00—DAMZON (M Ghiani, 3-1 2nd fav) 1; Lumberjack (9-1) 2; Hedonista (25-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 7l, nk. (A Carroll; 15-8 fav Haliphon). Tote: £4.00; pl £1.50, £2.70, £4.90. exacta: £29.20. tricast: £567.21. trifecta: £290.40. CSF: £29.55.

7.30—MERRIMACK (Harry Vigors, 13-8 fav) 1; Fiorella Princess (33-1) 2; Mumayaz (11-1) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 1¼l, ½l. (S C Williams). Tote: £2.63; pl £1.02, £8.80, £2.80. exacta: £49.50. tricast: £473.52. trifecta: £314.90. CSF: £57.35.

8.00—HIGH ON HOPE (H Davies, 10-11 fav) 1; Champagne Powder (5-2 2nd fav) 2; Plantadream (7-2) 3. H'cap 5 ran. hd, 6l. (M Appleby). Tote: £1.91; pl £1.20, £1.60. exacta: £3.50. trifecta: £5.00. CSF: £3.40.

8.30—BEACHBOROUGH GIRL (D E Hogan, 7-2) 1; Noss Mayo (10-3 2nd fav) 2; Silkies Sib (15-8 fav) 3. H'cap 9 ran. ½l, 7½l. (J & S Birkett). Tote: £5.30; pl £1.70, £1.50, £1.20. exacta: £18.70. tricast: £28.01. trifecta: £52.00. CSF: £15.66.

Jackpot: £8,313.20
Placepot: £312.40
(Race 1) 3, 7, 8; (2) 2, 11, 6; (3) 5, 9; (4) 7, 8, 3; (5) 5, 4, 2; (6) 4, 2.
Quadpot: £285.10

BEST OF NAAS RACINGTV

THE SCOUT

12.43 Newbrook Diamond
1.13 Run For Cover
1.43 Classical Creek
2.13 Quiryn
2.43 Kurasso Blue
3.13 Karamoja
3.45 Mclaurey

INSPECTION: 7.30AM

12.43 IRISH STALLION FARMS EBF MAIDEN HURDLE
€9,000 2m (28 declared)

1 P- **AKAKO (258)** G Cromwell 6 11-12 ... C Stone-Walsh
2 P2-P00 **ANODANDAWINK (25)** Ciaran Murphy 5 11-12 ... Eoin Walsh
3 92 **BARLEY LANE (48)** E & P Harty 5 11-12 ... K Buckley
4 65 **BLOW WIND BLOW (34)** E Bolger 5 11-12 ... M P Walsh
5 P-0L **DAWS CROSS (27)** A Sexton 7 11-12 ... Conor Lamon(7)
6 00 **EYE ON THE BALL (12)** J Nash 6 11-12 ... S D Torrens
7 299 **GOOD OPTION (14)** G Cromwell 6 11-12 ... K M Donoghue
8 7- **HEALYS PUB (264)** O McKiernan 5 11-12 ... P T Enright
9 PU **JETSTREAM JEFF (54)** P McCreery 5 11-12 ... Mr A O Harrington(7)
10 00 **MAX MERIDIUS (41)** T Mullins 5 11-12 ... D Mullins
11 90 **MR DEVLIN (14)** Conor Maxwell 5 11-12 ... J C Gainford
12 R1-23 ● **NEWBROOK DIAMOND (29)** G Elliott 6 11-12 ... J W Kennedy
13 050- **ORLANDO SPIRIT (497)** Paul Power 6 11-12 ... S O'Keeffe
14 6/45-023 **TAKENASRED (39)** S Crawford 8 11-12 ... S Ewing
15 840 **THANKYOUFORTHEDAYS (14)** J P Dempsey 5 11-12 ... D Meyler
16 00 **THE DANCEN KID (48)** R O'Sullivan 5 11-12 ... S Fitzgerald
17 5-9 **THISCOULDBETHEONE (255)** M Brassil 5 11-12 ... J J Slevin
18 2/F **TIME IS A THIEF (33)** H De Bromhead 6 11-12 ... D J O'Keeffe
19 00 **CAN'T CATCH MOLLY (34)** P Downey 6 11-5 ... P M O'Brien(5)
20 1/153-6 **FUTURE PROSPECT (254)** W P Mullins 6 11-5 ... P Townend
21 L0 **LEONARDS CHOICE (25)** F J Flood 5 11-5 ... Ben Kennedy(7)
22 0 **RATHBAWN SOLDIER (34)** P T Foley 5 11-5 ... A Harvey
23 5/2-31 **SHADYS LADY (61)** D Queally 8 11-5 ... M Kenneally(7)
24 L **TAKEMEBACKTODAKOTA (29)** A Sexton 6 11-5 ... H Sexton(7)
25 4P-0 **THE BESTY WOMAN (25)** H De Bromhead 5 11-5 ... M P O'Connor
26 436PP/P- **MAJOR WELLS (469)** Gerard O'Leary 10 11-12 ... RESERVE
27 1-8 **LYREEN OG (47)** A J Martin 6 11-12 ... RESERVE
28 P2-0368 **BALLYEDWARD (14)** S Crawford 6 11-12 ... RESERVE

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 17, 18, 28 CHEEK PIECES: No. 12 HOOD: Nos. 14, 18, 20, 22, 23.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Future Prospect, 11-4 Barley Lane, 3 Shadys Lady, 11-2 Newbrook Diamond, 8 Time Is A Thief, Takenasred, 16 Thiscouldbetheone, 25 Healys Pub, 33 Others.

2025: No corresponding race.

1.13 ADARE MANOR OPPORTUNITY HANDICAP HURDLE
€8,100 2m 2f 200yds (15)

1 5508 **TAKE STOCK (25)** G Cromwell 5 11-12 ... E Staples(4)
2 11-28L5 **PARTY PRESIDENT (25) (C)** A Mullins 6 11-11 ... Adam Leahy(4)
3 9U-3292 **HARPY EAGLE (94)** R P Cody 5 11-9 ... P J Cody(4)
4 25F54-9 **SAUNTON SURF (27)** Gary McGill 7 11-6 ... P K Donovan
5 7461 **CUMBERLAND RIVER (13)** G Elliott 4 11-3 ... Carl Millar(2)
6 26U349 **COULDNTMAKEITUP (27)** J Nash 6 11-2 ... Peter Smithers(4)
7 970 **GANGSTER GRANNY (8)** C A McBratney 5 11-2 ... S O'Callaghan
8 8733 **KEITHS BOY (75)** S Fahey 5 11-2 ... Ben Kennedy(4)
9 4737P6 **TEENAGE KISS (43)** C O'Dwyer 5 11-1 ... Charlie O'Dwyer
10 8042PF **SURVIVORS SISTER (11)** P Gilligan 7 10-12 ... J Gilligan(2)
11 906-901 ● **RUN FOR COVER (27)** M Brassil 7 10-11 ... Conor Brassil
12 0-5PB01 **BOSTON BOBBY (14)** P J Rothwell 7 10-1 ... T Power Roche
13 90P8 **ARTIC CHIEF (14)** L Lennon 5 10-0 ... P M O'Brien(2)
14 25P-P20 **COPPOLA (14)** C A McBratney 7 10-0 ... B Barry(4)
15 LLL0/0-7 **CREATIVE DANCER (54)** Ian Donoghue 9 10-0 ... A P Kelly

BLINKERS: No. 15 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 6, 8, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 5, 12 HOOD: No. 2.

SP FORECAST: 9-4 Run For Cover, 3 Cumberland River, 6 Harpy Eagle, 7 Boston Bobby, 10 Take Stock, Keiths Boy, Teenage Kiss, 14 Party President, 20 Others.

2025: Doctor Churchill 7-11-6, C Cullinan(4) 28-1 (Patrick Joseph Hayes), 17 ran.

1.43 BALLYMORE NOVICE HURDLE (GRADE 1)
€60,000 (1) 2m 4f (10)

1 113-1 ● **CLASSICAL CREEK (53) (D)** G Elliott 6 11-10 ... J W Kennedy
2 3-12231 **FRANKIE JOHN (11) (D)** D Hogan 6 11-10 ... D G Hogan
3 1/2-1 **FRUIT DE MER (61) (C)** H De Bromhead 6 11-10 ... D J O'Keeffe
4 112-111 **I'LL SORT THAT (53)** D Queally 6 11-10 ... Mr D L Queally
5 116-313 **KOVANIS (34) (D)** G Elliott 6 11-10 ... D Gilligan
6 242-212 **LETOS (26) (C&D)** A Mullins 6 11-10 ... D Mullins
7 2-1 **LORD ROUGE (33)** G Elliott 5 11-10 ... S Ewing
8 3-1 **SAINT BACO (34)** W P Mullins 5 11-10 ... P Townend
9 12271-1 **SORTUDO (47)** W P Mullins 6 11-10 ... Mr P W Mullins
10 211-222 **SWITCH FROM DIESEL (29)** R O'Sullivan 7 11-3 ... D King

HOOD: No. 9.

SP FORECAST: 7-4 Saint Baco, 11-4 Sortudo, 4 Classical Creek, 8 I'll Sort That, 12 Lord Rouge, 20 Switch From Diesel, Fruit De Mer, 25 Letos, Frankie John, 50 Kovanis.

2025: The Yellow Clay 6-11-12, Sam Ewing 11-4 (G Elliott), 8 ran.

2.43 EASYFIX EQUINE NOVICE CHASE
€9,300 3m 175yds (6)

1 2432-13 **BOSSOFTHEBROWNIES (48)** M F Morris 7 11-10 ... D J O'Keeffe
2 13P-F31 **FLICKER OF HOPE (49)** M Fahey 7 11-10 ... D Meyler
3 054-2P1 **PRENDS GARDE A TOI (25) (C)** G Elliott 7 11-10 ... James Smith(5)
4 P7342-L **HESASMOOTHOPERATOR (27)** T Gibney 8 11-4 ... H Sexton(7)
5 L-89L00 **ZEFIRO DODVILLE (33)** A Sexton 8 11-4 ... M Kenneally(7)
6 151-21 ● **KURASSO BLUE (29)** G Elliott 5 11-2 ... J W Kennedy

TONGUE STRAP: No. 1.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2, 6, 3, 5.

SP FORECAST: 11-10 Kurasso Blue, 5-2 Bossofthebrownies, 3 Flicker Of Hope, 7 Others.

2025: No corresponding race.

3.13 IRISH STALLION FARMS MARES BEGINNERS CHASE
€9,300 2m 4f 29yds (7)

1 4232-3F **GAOTH CHUIL (192)** T M Walsh 8 11-7 ... S O'Callaghan(5)
2 P/U2-115 **HONEY COME QUICK (13)** P J Rothwell 7 11-7 ... T Power Roche(3)
3 P173-46 ● **KARAMOJA (27)** W P Mullins 6 11-7 ... P Townend
4 2103-P6 **MAGIC MCCOLGAN (25)** W P Mullins 7 11-7 ... D Mullins
5 73P-1LL **NEON DIAMOND (29)** G Elliott 7 11-7 ... S Ewing
6 2313-U8 **SAINTE TARTARE (27)** W P Mullins 8 11-7 ... B Hayes
7 265-243 **THE GREAT NUDIE (47)** C Bowe 6 11-7 ... S W Flanagan

TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: No. 5 HOOD: No. 3.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

SP FORECAST: 10-11 Gaoth Chuil, 3 Karamoja, 8 Sainte Tartare, 10 Neon Diamond, 12 Others.

2025: Fun Fun Fun 7-11-7, Mr Patrick Mullins 7-2 (W P Mullins), 8 ran.

3.45 RACE AND STAY HANDICAP CHASE
€9,600 2m (11)

1 10-8387 **WIN SOME LOSE SOME (34)** P Roche 7 12-0 ... A P Kelly(3)
2 9051L-P **GOLDEN JOY (14)** G Elliott 7 11-13 ... J W Kennedy
3 311L-43 ● **MCLAUREY (27)** E Mullins 7 11-13 ... M P Walsh
4 913431 **BATTLE OF RIDGEWAY (26) (D)** M Hassett 8 11-9 ... Liam McKenna(5)
5 L3-6180 **JE T'AI PORTE (14)** G Cromwell 8 11-5 ... K M Donoghue
6 721-977 **CHAMPAGNE MAHLER (41) (D)** H De Bromhead 8 11-4 ... D J O'Keeffe
7 11-UF31 **MOUDAN (14)** Ciaran Murphy 7 11-4 ... Eoin Walsh
8 F441-L9 **PARK THAT (27)** E Bolger 6 10-10 ... S D Torrens
9 18L-L31 **ROCKBROOK (8) (D)** P J Rothwell 9 10-8 ... S O'Callaghan(5)
10 7445/PP **FERDIA (20)** J P Ryan 10 10-3 ... B Barry(7)
11 6-LP523 **MOUNT FRISCO (14)** J P Ryan 7 10-3 ... D King

BLINKERS: No. 2 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 4 CHEEK PIECES: No. 9 HOOD: Nos. 5, 8.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 4, 6, 10, 2, 5, 3, 7, 11, 9.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Yielding (Inspection 7.30am). Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Paul Townend 45% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** W P Mullins 33% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.13 Cumberland River (cheek pieces), Creative Dancer (blinkers), Keiths Boy (tongue strap), 12.43 Time Is A Thief (hood, tongue strap), Thiscouldbetheone (tongue strap), Newbrook Diamond (cheek pieces). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.43 Switch From Diesel. 3.13 Gaoth Chuil, Karamoja. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Saunton Surf** (1.13) Ireland. **STABLE SWITCH:** 12.43 **Akako** from Paul Cleary to G Cromwell, **Major Wells** from Robert Murphy in Ireland to Gerard O'Leary, **Orlando Spirit** from D Queally in Ireland to Paul Power.

VITAL STATISTICS

IN-FORM TRAINERS (last 10 days) B Smart 67% (2 wins and 2 places from 6 runners), Joey Ramsden 67% (1/3/6), Nick Scholfield 60% (2/1/5), P Hobbs & J White 60% (2/1/5), E Lavelle 57% (2/2/7), James Owen 56% (7/11/32), M Botti 56% (2/3/9), O Murphy 54% (5/8/24), P Nicholls 54% (6/7/24), D Skelton 52% (8/6/27), C Boultbee-Brooks 50% (1/2/6).

IN-FORM JOCKEYS Mr James King 83% (2 wins and 3 places from 6 runners), Sean Houlihan 80% (2/2/5), James Best 75% (2/1/4), Robert Dunne 75% (1/2/4), Dylan Johnston 60% (2/1/5), Brian Hughes 57% (4/4/14), Charlie Hammond 57% (1/3/7), Lorcan Williams 57% (1/3/7), Stan Sheppard 57% (2/2/7), Gavin Sheehan 55% (2/4/11), Harry Cobden 55% (4/7/20).

EXETER RACINGTV

INSPECTION: 8AM

THE SCOUT

1.02 Call Me Legend
1.32 Best Trump
2.02 Laganhill
2.32 Good Friday Fairy
3.02 Tom Taggle
3.35 Love Me
4.05 Blackswan D'oroux

JACKPOT: www.totepoolliveinfo.com

1.02 STAYERS' HANDICAP HURDLE
£4,753 (Class 4) 2m 7f 25yds (9 declared)

1 4251-43 **DIAMATISTE (53) (C)** K Woollacott 7 12-2 ... R Corcoran(3) 109
2 35-6754 **CROSSGALES KING (23)** S Hosie 6 11-12 ... Harry Atkins 105
3 31-4443 ● **CALL ME LEGEND (29)** P Hobbs & J White 6 11-12 Murray Dodd 111
4 1-34 **GILLESPIE (42)** P Nicholls 6 11-12 ... F Keighley(3) 102
5 1-P6312 **TZARMIX (30)** A Ralph 8 11-11 ... T McCain-Mitchell 109
6 16/01PL- **LOOKING FOR LARRY (316) (C)** T Dennis 8 11-8 ... O Palmer(3) 87
7 3313-53 **PIPERS CROSS (28)** E Lavelle 9 11-5 ... C Johnstone-Baker(8) ★112
8 5/3L1P-P **BAMPTON STAR (43)** J Scott 9 10-11 ... C Bament –
9 P/PP1-04 **BRAGANZA BAY (30)** H Daly 9 10-11 ... W Featherstone 107

BLINKERS: No. 9 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 8 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 5, 7, 8.

SP FORECAST: 3 Gillespie, 7-2 Call Me Legend, 4 Tzarmix, 5 Diamatiste, 8 Pipers Cross, 14 Looking For Larry, 16 Crossgales King, Braganza Bay, Bampton Star.

2025: Jack Sprat 7-11-6, William Featherstone(8) 3-1 (J Snowden), 7 ran.

1.32 PRICEDUP THE JUMPS 'NH' MAIDEN HDL
£5,281 (4) 2m 161yds (16)

1 3-4 **A KING OF MAGIC (73)** P Nicholls 5 11-8 ... L Harrison –
2 3-03P **ALIDAM (72)** Mrs S Leech 5 11-8 ... C Rabbitt(3) –
3 1- ● **BEST TRUMP (321)** J & A O'Neill 5 11-8 ... Jonjo O'Neill Jr –
4 P82-44L **DEVILSROLLTHEDICE (34)** Gordon Treacy 6 11-8 R Corcoran(7) 82
5 6 **DEVON PAIGE (43)** J Frost 6 11-8 ... B Godfrey –
6 35-944 **ETON MES (22)** D Pipe 5 11-8 ... J Tudor 101
7 3- **JOHNNY'S JURY (363) (F)** J Snowden 6 11-8 ... G Sheehan 119
8 6 **LIKE A DANCER (73)** E Williams 5 11-8 ... C Ring –
9 2/ **LIMERICK STAR (629)** P Hobbs & J White 6 11-8 ... C Pritchard(3) –
10 6/2-L **LIRONE DU SEUIL (55)** D Skelton 5 11-8 ... H Skelton 117
11 4-94 **LORD VIRGINIA (43)** M Keighley 5 11-8 ... Beau Morgan(5) –
12 37 **SAILING BY (35)** J Tizzard 5 11-8 ... B J Powell –
13 6-52L **LADY DAPPLE ROSE (30)** H Dickin 5 11-1 ... J Best 107
14 9P-25 **MISS TIARA (50)** J Scott 6 11-1 ... L Williams 100
15 8- **MOONLIGHT STRIDE (263)** P Hobbs & J White 6 11-1 Sean Houlihan –
16 22 **POURQUOI PAS PAPA (35)** P Nicholls 4 10-9 ... H Cobden ★120

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 14.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Pourquoi Pas Papa, 3 Johnny's Jury, 4 Best Trump, 12 Limerick Star, 14 Sailing By, 16 Miss Tiara, A King Of Magic, 25 Lirone Du Seuil, Lady Dapple Rose, Lord Virginia, 33 Others.

2025: Saint Anapolino 6-11-8, Micheal Nolan 10-3 (P Hobbs & J White), 14 ran.

2.02 PRICEDUP NOVICES' LIMITED H'CAP CHS
£8,186 (3) 3m 54yds (8)

1 14/2PP-1 **TOSS OF A COIN (34) (D)** A Jones 8 11-10 ... J Tidball(5) 134
2 L1P-335 **FIRST CONFESSION (27)** J Tizzard 7 11-7 ... B J Powell 138
3 11L3-42 ● **LAGANHILL (41)** H Daly 8 11-6 ... D Bass 134
4 52224-L **EL GRANJERO (62)** C Boultbee-Brooks 7 11-4 ... N Fox(5) ★139
5 16-6434 **SAINT ANAPOLINO (14)** P Hobbs & J White 7 11-3 Sean Houlihan 133
6 532P-51 **SILVER THORN (28) (D,F)** E Lavelle 7 11-1 ... B R Jones 136
7 2F21P-1 **WICKED THOUGHTS (43)** P Nicholls 7 11-1 ... H Cobden 134
8 1/2214-P **TOMMY THE TANK (35)** Dr R Newland & J Insole 8 11-0 C Hammond –

CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 4, 7.

SP FORECAST: 9-4 Silver Thorn, 7-2 Wicked Thoughts, 5 Toss Of A Coin, 13-2 Laganhill, 10 El Granjero, Saint Anapolino, First Confession, 16 Tommy The Tank.

2025: No corresponding race.

2.32 PRICEDUP APP HANDICAP CHASE
£8,080 (3) 2m 3f 48yds (10)

1 P-8P1PP **MOUNT TEMPEST (62)** Mrs S Leech 9 12-2 ... C Rabbitt(3) 125
2 337L-1L **SPIRITS BAY (51)** N & W Twiston-Davies 8 12-1 T McCain-Mitchell(5) 91
3 4/029-24 **INTO THE PARK (61)** P Hobbs & J White 7 12-0 ... B R Jones –
4 4112/1- **BIG CITY ROLLER (317)** C Longsdon 8 11-12 ... Lilly Pinchin ★130
5 2L112-1 ● **GOOD FRIDAY FAIRY (47) (C&D)** Ben Clarke 9 11-12 S Twiston-Davies 124
6 13222-4 **DENEMETHY (53)** F O'Brien 8 11-10 ... J Hogan 127
7 373-U51 **FOLLOWCATO (23)** B Pauling 7 11-2 ... K Woods 128
8 21/LL-1L **PILSDON PEN (14)** J Scott 9 11-2 ... L Williams 127
9 011-L95 **BOYLES HILL (43)** E Williams 7 10-10 ... C Ring 98
10 5L5L-43 **FLASH GORCOMBE (24) (C&D)** R Walford 9 10-4 ... H Kimber 129

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 8 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 5, 7.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Good Friday Fairy, 4 Big City Roller, 11-2 Followcato, 7 Flash Gorcombe, Into The Park, 10 Pilsdon Pen, Denemethy, 12 Spirits Bay, 25 Others.

2025: No corresponding race.

3.02 BET ON PRICEDUP HANDICAP HURDLE
£3,697 (5) 2m 5f 137yds (18)

1 P41-663 **IRIS DES ISSARDS (43) (D)** K Woollacott 8 12-0 ... H Cobden 103
2 741-747 **MOORLAND RAMBLER (49) (C)** Mrs J Williams 8 12-0 C Gethings 98
3 141-233 **ROBBER'S BRIDGE (133)** Dan Horsford 8 11-13 ... B J Powell 101
4 8/36L-38 **IT'S A BREEZE (24)** P Nicholls 7 11-13 ... J Tidball(5) 88
5 4125-03 **SHUIL CEOIL (55) (C&D)** N Mulholland 8 11-12 ... B Harris(3) 102
6 1-L0 **IAMCELESTIALGIFT (29)** D Killahena & G McPherson 8 11-12 K Woods 99
7 41/P333- **BENIGNITAS (299)** Gordon Treacy 9 11-11 ... R Corcoran(7) 93
8 521112 **GETAWAY WITH YOU (21)** D Killahena & G McPherson 8 11-10 N Slatter(3) 99
9 45-LL **DIRECTLY (54)** S Drinkwater 7 11-9 ... B R Jones 79
10 F42-P79 **LARGY PANIC (24)** Ben Clarke 6 11-9 T McCain-Mitchell(5) 90
11 35-5F14 **OLIVIA KATE (12)** M Sheppard 7 11-8 ... S Sheppard ★104
12 P-09 **VICTORY SHOUT (23)** S Hosie 5 11-7 ... H Kimber 86
13 8316-U4 **PRAIRIE DIAMOND (26)** M Keighley 7 11-7 ... F Keighley(7) 98
14 LLP9-43 **STORMING NELSON (32) (C)** Mrs S Gardner 7 11-5 Lucy Gardner 101
15 L6561-P **WHATMAKES HONEY B (63)** H Brown 7 11-4 ... C Bament(7) 97
16 027/5-L5 **WESEEKHERTHERE (35)** P Hobbs & J White 7 11-4 Sean Houlihan 81
17 423323 **LOCKED DOWN LAD (47)** J Tickle 6 11-3 ... Taylor Fisher 99
18 4461-F3 ● **TOM TAGGLE (43)** E Williams 6 11-2 ... Isabel Williams 98

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 16 VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 6, 8, 10, 15
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 8, 11 HOOD: Nos. 3, 4, 12, 13.

SP FORECAST: 5 Getaway With You, 13-2 Robber's Bridge, 7 Storming Nelson, 8 Victory Shout, 10 Tom Taggle, Olivia Kate, Locked Down Lad, 12 Others.

2025: Coconut Twist 7-11-1, R David(7) 7-2 Fav (Daisy Hitchins), 15 ran.

3.35 RACING BLOGGER HANDICAP CHASE
£5,413 (4) 2m 1f 109yds (11)

1 4/322-2L **RISK DE PLUIE (27)** Ben Clarke 7 12-0 T McCain-Mitchell(5) 118
2 L2PF-4L **WEWILLGOWITHPLANB (20)** E Williams 9 11-13 ... C Ring –
3 53227-2 **ROYAL MER (24)** D Pipe 8 11-11 ... J Tudor ★121
4 L5714-L **ALTO ALTO (53) (D)** C Gordon 9 11-11 ... F Gordon 118
5 3P-1122 **HAAS BOY (14)** Chester Williams 9 11-8 ... H Cobden 108
6 1P1-222 **PASSING KATE (13) (C&D)** M Sheppard 9 11-7 ... S Sheppard 120
7 10P0-43 ● **LOVE ME (31) (F)** Miss J Davis 6 11-3 ... G Sheehan –
8 12/0P2-6 **BONZA BOY (34) (C)** J Scott 9 11-3 ... L Williams 119
9 13L-LLP **PADDY IN THE CADDY (23)** P Hobbs & J White 7 11-1 Sean Houlihan 118
10 894504 **W B EASY (35)** R Stephens 6 11-0 ... C Gethings –
11 P6/P2L-1 **KINGCORMAC (30)** J Tickle 10 10-3 ... Taylor Fisher 116

BLINKERS: No. 9 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 10
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 5, 8.

SP FORECAST: 7-2 Kingcormac, 4 Haas Boy, 5 Royal Mer, 7 Passing Kate, Risk De Pluie, 10 Bonza Boy, 12 Alto Alto, 14 Love Me, 16 Others.

2025: Passing Kate 8-10-10, Stan Sheppard 5-2 Fav (M Sheppard), 7 ran.

4.05 PRICEDUP OPEN NH FLAT RACE
£2,112 (5) 2m 161yds (15)

1 ● **BLACKSWAN D'OROUX** B Pauling 5 11-2 ... B R Jones –
2 **BOLD STEP (S)** N Henderson 6 11-2 ... J Bowen –
3 85 **CRYSTAL ORCHARD (49)** J Tizzard 5 11-2 ... B J Powell 96
4 2 **EASTERN FIRE (55)** D Skelton 5 11-2 ... H Skelton 93
5 3-7 **FINAL SURPRISE (45)** A Ralph 5 11-2 ... C Gethings 102
6 **GOSPEL MOON** Mrs S Gardner 5 11-2 ... C P O'Shea(7) –
7 0 **GOVERNORS ISLAND (64)** H Fry 5 11-2 ... B Carver 65
8 22 **I'M WIDE AWAKE (35)** Mrs S Gardner 6 11-2 ... Lucy Gardner ★109
9 0 **KEEPSOLDIERINGON (72)** Mrs H Nelmes 5 11-2 ... Paul O'Brien 60
10 **LE COLD GREY** P Nicholls 5 11-2 ... H Cobden –
11 **MALINAERO** E Williams 5 11-2 ... Isabel Williams –
12 3- **QUICKKICK (285)** P Hobbs & J White 5 11-2 ... Sean Houlihan –
13 **VALIANT SOLDIER** J Tizzard 5 11-2 ... F Gingell –
14 **FOUNTAINS GALA** Claire Hitch 6 10-9 ... J Best –
15 **MORTAL COIL** T H Weston 4 10-3 ... J Bryan –

SP FORECAST: 4 Bold Step, 9-2 Le Cold Grey, Blackswan D'oroux, 5 I'm Wide Awake, 8 Final Surprise, Eastern Fire, 12 Crystal Orchard, 16 Quickkick, Valiant Soldier, 25 Others.

2025: Realco 5-11-9, Harry Skelton 5-4 Fav (D Skelton), 7 ran.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Good to soft, soft in places (Inspection 8am). Right Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Harry Cobden 26% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** P Nicholls 27% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 2.32 Pilsdon Pen (blinkers), Into The Park (cheek pieces), 3.02 Largy Panic (tongue strap), Weseekherthere (blinkers), Iris Des Issards (blinkers), Shuil Ceoil (visor), 3.35 Love Me (tongue strap, wind surgery). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.02 Tzarmix(hcp hdl). 1.32 A King Of Magic, Pourquoi Pas Papa, Sailing By. 2.32 Spirits Bay(hcp ch). 3.02 Getaway With You(hcp hdl). **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Tzarmix** (1.02) & **Final Surprise** (4.05) 167 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 1.32 **Best Trump** from Derek O'Connor in Ireland to J & A O'Neill, **Johnny's Jury** from N Henderson to J Snowden, **Limerick Star** from M Goff in Ireland to P Hobbs & J White. 4.05 **Quickkick** from Mary Ellen Doyle in Ireland to P Hobbs & J White.

WOLVERHAMPTON SSR

INSPECTION: 9.30AM

THE SCOUT

4.25 CARGIN BHUI (nb)
5.00 Zoulu Warrior
5.30 Coachello
6.00 Oman
6.30 Shiplake
7.00 Ziggy's Condor
7.30 ABDUCTION (nap)
8.00 Sea Founder
8.30 Hitched

4.25 SBK HANDICAP (DIV 1)
£7,851 (Class 5) 6f 20yds (7 runners)

1 (8) 709353- **BRAVE EMPIRE (21) (D)** I Furtado 5 9-9 ... D Keenan 78
2 (5) 514292- **WAISTCOAT (30) (D)** R Burdon 5 9-8 ... J Mitchell 77
3 (7) 92153-5 **I NEED YOUR LOVE (3) (D)** M & D Easterby 4 9-6 ... Doubtful 78
4 (3) 622055- **BRIAN THE SNAIL (18) (C&D)** P Morris 12 9-5 ... D Nolan 71
5 (2) 12741-4 **GUSTAV GRAVES (7) (C&D)** D Shaw 8 9-2 ... Joanna Mason 77
6 (1) 33L96-2 ● **CARGIN BHUI (7) (C,S)** D & N Barron 5 9-2 ... L Edmunds ★81
7 (4) 848522- **AMERJEET (10)** M Herrington 4 8-10 ... R Hornby 80
8 (6) 21L793- **SOME NIGHTMARE (27) (C&D)** J G O'Shea 9 8-8 ... G Mangan 77

VISOR: No. 3 TONGUE STRAP: No. 2 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 4, 8.

SP FORECAST: 11-10 Cargin Bhui, 9-2 Waistcoat, 7 Brave Empire, Amerjeet, 10 Gustav Graves, 12 Some Nightmare, 14 Brian The Snail.

5.00 SBK HANDICAP (DIV 2)
£7,851 (5) 6f 20yds (8)

1 (1) 229211- ● **ZOULU WARRIOR (13) (C&D)** H Main 4 9-9 ... C Fallon 77
2 (3) 33313-6 **ADDARELLA (6) (C&D,S)** M Botti 4 9-7 ... M Ghiani 77
3 (2) 09L907- **TOOMUCHFORME (20) (D)** A Brittain 4 9-7 ... A Jary(3) 75
4 (5) 0L/38LL- **CAST NO SHADOW (44)** H Palmer 5 9-3 ... J Hart 78
5 (4) 2L1324- **PUNCHBOWL FLYER (122) (D)** J G O'Shea 9 9-3 ... W Carson 75
6 (8) 6275-42 **INVINCIBLE MELODY (5) (F)** S C Williams 4 9-2 J Dace(5) 77
7 (7) 0L/L993- **HAZIYM (23) (D)** A Carroll 7 8-10 ... Jack Doughty ★80
8 (6) L5L84-2 **COURT OF SESSION (5)** P McEntee 7 8-9 ... Grace McEntee 79

BLINKERS: Nos. 4, 5 VISOR: Nos. 6, 8 TONGUE STRAP: No. 3
CHEEK PIECES: No. 1.

SP FORECAST: 7-4 Zoulu Warrior, 7-2 Invincible Melody, 4 Addarella, 8 Punchbowl Flyer, Haziym, 14 Court Of Session, 16 Toomuchforme, 25 Cast No Shadow.

5.30 SBK: WITHOUT THE BULL HANDICAP ITV4
£28,787 (3) 6f 20yds (12)

1 (9) 462321- **ZOULU CHIEF (67) (C&D,F)** H Main 5 9-9 ... J Mitchell 96
2 (1) 008054- **BADRI (31) (D)** M Herrington 9 9-9 ... L Edmunds 96
3 (7) 507L32- **CARBINE HARVESTER (37) (C&D)** W Haggas 4 9-8 C Fallon 98
4 (8) 970U03- ● **COACHELLO (10) (C&D)** M Loughnane 8 9-8 E Greatrex 95
5 (2) 57L581- **KULLAZAIN (10) (C&D)** J Tate 4 9-8(5ex) ... C Shepherd 96
6 (13) 007L46- **THE CALTONIAN (31) (C,D) (T)** Miss L Perratt 7 9-7 J Hart 98
7 (11) 30008/0- **DRAGON LEADER (272) (D)** C Cox 5 9-6 ... Doubtful 86
8 (6) 682071- **BETSEN (44) (D)** A Carroll 5 9-5 ... T Eaves ★101
9 (4) 2L23L-5 **PUREST TIME (8) (D)** I Williams 6 9-5 ... Joanna Mason 100
10 (5) 822111- **JUSTCALLMEPETE (22) (D)** A Carroll 7 9-5 ... D Costello 97
11 (10) 14141-2 **EMINENCY (8) (D)** S C Williams 6 9-5 ... J Dace(5) 98
12 (12) 03/8146- **DYRHOLAEY (18) (C&D)** A Watson 5 9-4 ... L Morris 99
13 (3) 651524- **MANY A STAR (10) (C&D)** J Osborne 9 9-4 ... R Hornby 96

BLINKERS: Nos. 6, 10 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 11, 13
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 12 HOOD: No. 11.

SP FORECAST: 4 Zoulu Chief, 9-2 Kullazain, 5 Carbine Harvester, 7 Eminency, Justcallmepete, 10 Coachello, Badri, 14 Betsen, 16 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard (Inspection 9.30am). Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Luke Morris 12% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** A Carroll 9% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 5.30 Dyrholaey (cheek pieces), 6.00 Flaine (eye shields), The Sweet Escape (tongue strap), 6.30 Tennessee Gold (cheek pieces), 7.00 Brunel Nation (cheek pieces), Al Rufaa (cheek pieces), 7.30 Monotone (visor), 8.00 San Juanito (cheek pieces, tongue strap). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 4.25 Cargin Bhui(hcp), I Need Your Love(hcp). 6.30 Follow Your Heart(hcp). 7.00 Al Rufaa(hcp), Kit Gabriel(hcp), Vince Lombardi(hcp). 7.30 Arantes Nascimento(hcp), Bella Bisbee(hcp). 8.00 Gaiety Musical(hcp), Paladin(hcp), Towerlands(hcp). **DRAW:** Little effect. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Little Empire** (6.30) Ireland; **Abduction** (7.30) 285 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 6.30 **I Still Have Faith** from B Brookhouse to S C Williams. 8.00 **Mollie Foster** from E Walker to M Loughnane, **North View** from G Boughey to S C Williams, **Paladin** from C Johnston to K Frost. 8.30 **Bubbles Wonky** from T Easterby to M Pattinson, **Robbo** from G & J Moore to T Faulkner.

6.00 FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE SBK HANDICAP ITV4
£7,851 (5) 1m 4f 51yds (12)

1 (2) 169/297- **BYSTANDER (22)** S C Williams 6 10-0 ... J Dace(5) 78
2 (11) 653894- **LIGHT SPEED (21) (C)** G Tutty 6 9-11 ... Joanna Mason 80
3 (5) 431277- **AIMING HIGH (18) (C&D)** D M Simcock 7 9-11 ... C Shepherd 79
4 (4) 112215- **MARKET HOUSE (27) (D)** James Owen 6 9-11 ... S D Bowen 75
5 (6) L09251- ● **OMAN (27) (C,D)** A Carroll 8 9-11 ... C Fallon 76
6 (7) L62L35- **BINT AL DAAR (18) (C)** K Frost 6 9-10 ... J Mitchell 78
7 (3) LL384-4 **JODHPUR BLUE (7)** I Williams 5 9-10 ... E Greatrex 77
8 (1) 0L1391- **FRANCESCO BARACCA (10) (C,D,F)** E J-Houghton 5 9-10 J Nicholls(5) ★81
9 (10) 143222- **NIVELLE'S MAGIC (39) (D)** Dan Horsford 7 9-9 W Fentiman(5) 77
10 (12) 2115L-1 **GEMMARI (7) (C&D)** R Hannon 4 9-9(5ex) ... S M Levey 79
11 (9) 11L4L5- **FLAINE (20) (C)** D Loughnane 4 9-3 ... C Planas(3) 72
12 (8) 444366- **THE SWEET ESCAPE (10)** D Loughnane 4 9-1 ... F Marsh 78

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 1, 4, 12 CHEEK PIECES: No. 4 EYE COVERS: No. 11
HOOD: No. 3.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Francesco Baracca, 4 Gemmari, 6 Oman, 8 Nivelle's Magic, 10 Market House, 12 Aiming High, Light Speed, 14 Others.

6.30 SBK: JUST SPORTS HANDICAP ITV4
£18,319 (4) 7f 36yds (12)

1 (9) 11504-1 **BELL SHOT (8) (D)** M Appleby 7 9-11(4ex) ... H Davies 91
2 (4) 2L0038- **DOSMAN (23) (D)** Oli Rix 5 9-8 ... J Peate 89
3 (5) L/131- **BELA SONATA (174) (D)** Oliver Cole 4 9-8 ... C Rodriguez ★96
4 (1) 423934- **BEST RATE (65) (C&D)** R Hannon 4 9-7 ... S M Levey 93
5 (2) LL9032- **METAVERSE (39) (D)** D Menuisier 6 9-7 ... R Havlin 94
6 (10) 326220- **I STILL HAVE FAITH (90)** S C Williams 6 9-7 ... M Ghiani 95
7 (6) 00374-3 **DIAMONDONTHEHILL (3) (D)** Dr R Newland & J Insole 8 9-5 L Morris 94
8 (7) 534505- **TENNESSEE GOLD (22) (D)** J Parr 5 9-5 ... C Fallon 92
9 (11) 274361- ● **SHIPLAKE (49) (D)** K P De Foy 4 9-5 ... D Keenan 94
10 (3) 631332- **LITTLE EMPIRE (21) (C&D)** A McCann (IRE) 6 9-4 C Shepherd 93
11 (12) 06071-4 **FOLLOW YOUR HEART (3) (C&D)** M Loughnane 8 9-4 W Fentiman(5) 93
12 (8) 324441- **MYTHICAL COMPOSER (39) (D)** C Cox 4 9-4 ... J Nicholls(5) 94

BLINKERS: No. 4 VISOR: No. 1 TONGUE STRAP: No. 11
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 8, 12 HOOD: Nos. 5, 9.

SP FORECAST: 9-2 Bela Sonata, 5 Little Empire, 6 Shiplake, 8 Mythical Composer, Bell Shot, Metaverse, Best Rate, 10 Follow Your Heart, 12 Others.

7.00 TIPPING TOM ON SBK H'CAP (DIV 1) ITV4
£7,851 (5) 7f 36yds (10)

1 (10) 16552-1 **REVOLUTIONISE (7) (C&D,F)** S C Williams 10 9-10(4ex) J Dace(5) 82
2 (5) 624323- ● **ZIGGY'S CONDOR (25)** R Fahey 5 9-9 ... W Fentiman(5) 83
3 (2) 1/6L99L- **BRUNEL NATION (22) (D)** R Hughes 5 9-9 ... D J Murphy(7) 69
4 (6) 72225-4 **AL RUFAA (7) (C,D)** D & C Kubler 9 9-8 ... C Rodriguez ★86
5 (8) 08L317- **KIT GABRIEL (79) (C,D)** S Pearce 7 9-7 ... T Heard 82
6 (3) 425216- **STAR OF MALI (49) (D)** J Tate 4 9-7 ... R Hornby 85
7 (1) 661613- **BILL PLUMB (63) (C)** P McEntee 7 9-5 ... L Morris 82
8 (4) L11225- **VINCE LOMBARDI (21) (C)** S Spencer 7 9-5 ... D Swift 84
9 (7) 5L7291- **THE CARIBBEAN (27) (C&D,F)** H Main 5 9-1 ... C Fallon 82
10 (9) 3L741L- **HARBOUR VISION (13) (C&D)** S Dixon 11 8-9 ... K O'Neill 83

BLINKERS: Nos. 9, 10 VISOR: No. 2 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 7, 8
CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 4, 7.

SP FORECAST: 4 Star Of Mali, 9-2 The Caribbean, 5 Revolutionise, 6 Ziggy's Condor, 7 Vince Lombardi, 8 Bill Plumb, 10 Kit Gabriel, 12 Al Rufaa, 16 Others.

7.30 TIPPING TOM ON SBK H'CAP (DIV 2) ITV4
£7,851 (5) 7f 36yds (10)

1 (3) 1088LL- ● **ABDUCTION (76) (C&D) (T)** J Goldie 8 9-9 ... L Morris 81
2 (7) 842129- **HE'S A GENTLEMAN (20) (C&D)** H Palmer 7 9-9 J Hart 84
3 (9) 111040- **ASH WEDNESDAY (168) (C&D)** H Main 5 9-9 ... J Mitchell 85
4 (5) 233708- **THIS FARH (22) (D)** D Loughnane 4 9-8 ... F Marsh 83
5 (8) 342332- **MONSIEUR KODI (11) (F)** R Fahey 7 9-7 ... W Fentiman(5) 84
6 (2) 88122-5 **BAJAN BANDIT (8) (D)** P Morris 6 9-6 ... D Nolan 83
7 (1) 32652-2 **ARANTES NASCIMENTO (7) (D)** M Attwater 5 9-5 S M Levey ★86
8 (10) 7L0L89- **MONOTONE (20)** A Brittain 4 9-4 ... A Jary(3) 80
9 (4) L70124- **BELLA BISBEE (14) (C&D)** S Dixon 5 9-2 ... K O'Neill 84
10 (6) 48877-6 **SIMPLY BLUE (5) (C&D)** James Owen 4 8-8 ... H Davies 82

VISOR: Nos. 2, 8 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 10 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 4, 5.

SP FORECAST: 4 Ash Wednesday, 9-2 Bella Bisbee, 5 He's A Gentleman, 6 Arantes Nascimento, 13-2 Monsieur Kodi, 8 Simply Blue, Bajan Bandit, 14 This Farh, 16 Others.

8.00 SBK BETTING PODCAST HANDICAP ITV4
£18,319 (4) 1m 142yds (12)

1 (3) 453444- **BORGI (34) (C&D)** S Woods 7 9-7 ... K O'Neill 91
2 (1) 410201- **COMMANDER OF LIFE (92) (C&D)** Jessica Macey 5 9-7 L Edmunds 89
3 (2) 371412- **STELLENBOSCH (20) (F)** R Hannon 4 9-6 ... S M Levey 90
4 (10) 123402- **BENACRE (35) (F)** C Johnston 6 9-6 ... J Hart 88
5 (6) 483301- **MOLLIE FOSTER (85)** M Loughnane 4 9-6 ... C Fallon 87
6 (12) 1L6007- **SAN JUANITO (27) (C&D)** M Murphy 4 9-6 ... R Havlin 85
7 (9) 251112- **TOWERLANDS (11)** A Carroll 4 9-5 ... Jack Doughty 89
8 (8) 435523- **GAIETY MUSICAL (9) (C&D)** P Evans 5 9-5 ... J Dace(5) 89
9 (4) 058916- **RAJAPOUR (13) (C&D)** D O'Meara 6 9-5 ... D Nolan 90
10 (7) 963482- **NORTH VIEW (87)** S C Williams 5 9-5 ... M Ghiani 92
11 (11) 5L1L25- **PALADIN (84)** K Frost 5 9-4 ... J Mitchell ★93
12 (5) 57/1467- ● **SEA FOUNDER (125)** R Hughes 4 9-4 ... F Marsh 91

VISOR: No. 9 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: No. 6.

SP FORECAST: 5 Towerlands, 11-2 Stellenbosch, 6 Commander Of Life, 7 Borgi, 8 North View, Mollie Foster, 10 Rajapour, Benacre, Sea Founder, Gaiety Musical, 25 Others.

8.30 BET RESPONSIBLY WITH SBK H'CAP ITV4
£18,319 (4) 1m 1f 104yds (12)

1 (6) 150L45- **ARCADIAN NIGHTS (14) (C&D)** M Loughnane 8 9-12 E Greatrex 89
2 (2) 879976- **MR BALOO (18) (C&D)** R Hannon 5 9-11 ... S M Levey ★92
3 (5) 433761- **ADVANCING (13) (C&D)** M Botti 4 9-10 ... M Ghiani 89
4 (7) L000LL- **INTINSO (J139) (C)** Craig Lidster 6 9-9 ... T Eaves 56
5 (10) L56029- **BUBBLES WONKY (84) (D)** M Pattinson 5 9-8 T Greatrex 90
6 (9) 362312- **MY FERMOY (25)** D Coakley 4 9-7 ... R Hornby 87
7 (3) 5L1760- **ROBBO (J81)** T Faulkner 5 9-4 ... R Havlin 91
8 (12) 462372- ● **HITCHED (9) (C&D)** D M Simcock 6 9-4 ... L Morris 90
9 (8) 34453-3 **URBAN ROAD (8) (C&D)** A Brown 7 9-3 ... J Hart 90
10 (1) 010012- **PHONE TAG (27) (D)** K Frost 5 9-3 ... J Mitchell 89
11 (11) 81121-1 **TONAL (7) (C&D,S)** I Williams 6 9-0(5ex) ... R Kavanagh(5) 90
12 (4) 258119- **ANNEXATION (18) (D)** A Carroll 10 8-13 ... Jack Doughty 88

VISOR: No. 9 CHEEK PIECES: No. 11 HOOD: No. 8.

SP FORECAST: 3 Advancing, 4 Tonal, 9-2 My Fermoy, 6 Hitched, 8 Phone Tag, 10 Mr Baloo, 14 Urban Road, 16 Arcadian Nights, 20 Others.

GOSSIP FROM THE GALLOPS

Newmarket:	North:
ADDARELLA	CARGIN BHUI
(5.00 Wolverhampton)	(4.25 Wolverhampton)
Lambourn:	Midlands:
BOLD STEP	TONAL
(4.05 Exeter)	(8.30 Wolverhampton)

HOOF PRINTS

HAITI COULEURS could try to stop Galopin Des Champs' history bid in the Paddy Power Irish Gold Cup at Leopardstown on January 31.

The Welsh Grand National hero is one of three British-trained entries in the feature event of the two-day Dublin Racing Festival, as Willie Mullins' home favourite aims to rack up a record fourth straight success in the race.

Galopin Des Champs, the dual Cheltenham Gold Cup hero, will have a point to prove having surrendered his Savills Chase crown over the Christmas period, and Haiti Couleurs' trainer Rebecca Curtis is not afraid of crossing the Irish Sea for her stable star's final appearance before Prestbury Park in March.

Curtis, who made a successful raid on the Irish Grand National with her nine-year-old last year, said: "We just wanted to give him options.

"We'll see what the race ends up looking like and the owners absolutely love going over to Ireland. It's a race with great prize-money and it's definitely an option."

ON THE CHARGE Bath skipper Spencer has his eyes on Euro glory

Bath ready to Cast spell on Europe again

BEN HAILS SQUAD STRENGTH

CASTRES v BATH
Champions Cup: Pool 2, KO 8pm

BY **ADAM HATHAWAY**

BATH skipper Ben Spencer leads his side back into Europe tonight convinced they finally have the ammunition to conquer on two fronts.

Scrum-half Spencer, who starts in the round three clash in Castres, helped Bath to their first Prem title in 29 years last season but they bombed out of the Champions Cup at the pool stages.

Bath did land the second-tier European Challenge Cup, after dropping down from the big one, plus the Premiership Cup, but have had their eyes on the main prize since the start of this campaign.

And Spencer has backed a Bath squad stacked with Test stars, such as Finn Russell, Santi Carreras and Cam Redpath, to become the first English side to do the Champions Cup/Prem double since Exeter did in the Covid-wrecked season of 2019-20.

Spencer said: "If you want to compete in all of them it comes down to the squad. We played over 50 players in the Prem last year and that is what it will come down to, how many people who can pull on the shirt and perform.

"The strength in depth we have got at the club is unbelievable and whoever puts on the shirt, one to 23, has got full belief and full trust in what we do."

That strength in depth is demonstrated tonight in France with Ollie Lawrence missing, so another international, Max Ojomoh (below), comes in at centre with Bath looking for a second win in three in Europe.

Ojomoh missed last week's epic 33-26 win over Exeter with calf trouble but the midfielder, who has two England caps, has timed his run nicely with national boss Steve Borthwick announcing his Six Nations squad in a fortnight.

Spencer added: "He is a player who has a huge amount of confidence and belief and where Max has come on is he has really matured in the last few years.

"In his early years he probably thought he knew how to play the game before he played the game. He has understood there are loads of different ways games can be won."

England flanker Guy Pepper spearheads a powerful Bomb Squad type bench alongside South African World Cup-winning prop Thomas du Toit against a Castres side containing former Harlequins tight-head Will Collier.

Gloucester, also with one win and one loss in the tournament, head to Edinburgh missing scrum-half Tomos Williams, centre Max Llewellyn and wing Ben Loader among others.

They were also hit when wing Ollie Thorley and lock Arthur Clark were both handed three-match bans yesterday after incidents in last Friday's defeat by Newcastle.

Centre Seb Atkinson, another looking to impress Borthwick, captains a side low on confidence after four straight losses.

WORLD OF SPORT

TENNIS

SONAY KARTAL reached the quarter-finals of the ASB Classic in New Zealand with a straight-sets win over Germany's Ella Seidel.

The Brit, 24, completed a 6-3 6-1 win in just over an hour to book her spot in the last eight, where she will face No.1 seed Elina Svitolina.

KARTAL

Svitolina reached the quarter-final stages in Auckland with a straight-sets victory over Kartal's compatriot Katie Boulter. A tight battle between the players saw Svitolina edge through 7-5 6-4.

Elsewhere, Cameron Norrie was knocked out of the Brisbane International after being beaten 7-6 4-6 6-4 by Aleksandar Kovacevic in the last 16.

British doubles stars Julian Cash and Lloyd Glasspool – the top seeds – won a match tie-break 10-0 to see off Americans Tommy Paul and Ethan Quinn.

---

1. Which Italian won the 2025 FIA Formula 2 Championship?
2. Who broke the record for the most sixes in ODIs during India's first match against South Africa in Ranchi in November, 2025?
3. Which Super League club have signed 2024-2025 Salford Red Devils hooker Joe Mellor for 2026?
4. Which team triumphed in the 2002 all-London FA Cup Final?
5. Who won the 110m hurdles at the World Championships in 1995, 1997, 2001 and 2003?
6. Which East German sprinter won the women's 100m and 200m at the 1972 Olympics?
7. Which tennis player won the all-Australian men's singles final at Wimbledon in 1958?
8. Which American golfer won the Masters Tournament in 2007?
9. Which Briton beat David Tua to retain the IBF World Heavyweight title in 2000?
10. What is the first event in the Decathlon?

10 to tackle
RATINGS
0-3 Oh dear
4-6 Small beer
7-9 So near
10 Sporting Seer

ANSWERS: 1 Leonardo Fornaroli. 2 Rohit Sharma. 3 Bradford Bulls. 4 Arsenal. 5 Allen Johnson. 6 Renate Stecher. 7 Ashley Cooper. 8 Zach Johnson. 9 Lennox Lewis. 10. 100m.

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BULLISH Eribe Doro is tipped to make a big impact

Haggerty hits the Bulls-eye with trio

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY **JOSH McALLISTER**

BRADFORD BULLS head coach Kurt Haggerty believes his trio of recruits from Hull KR will help the club on its long-awaited return to Super League.

Eribe Doro, Rowan Milnes and Leon Ruan have all joined after being part of Willie Peters' treble-winning Hull KR squad last year.

Half-back Milnes, 26, is embarking on his second stint at Bradford alongside former fan favourite Doro. Both have signed two-year deals.

Forward Ruan is on a season-long loan, with the move set to become permanent in 2027.

"They're all young, they've been in winning environments and I've slight experience with two out of three – I knew what they bring," Haggerty said, having worked with Milnes and Ruan at Salford in 2025. "What they've added already is a training intensity that will put us in good stead."

Doro, 24, featured nine times for the Robins and the former Warrington youngster has made close to 100 senior appearances in his career.

Now he is looking to establish himself at the top level.

Haggerty added: "We had six weeks to recruit a team. Eribe became available, which we didn't think he would.

"He values what a winning environment looks like – he's brought a lot of energy, he's physical, and he's aggressive, so there's a lot in his game that I like.

"He wants to play every week, that's the next challenge of his career. He needs to show me that he's ready to start in Super League every week, so there's a process he needs to go through."

Finucane gearing up to be a world-beater

CYCLING

EMMA FINUCANE will chase down a world record at next month's European Championship in Turkey.

The former world champion will be aiming to reclaim the European sprint title she won in 2024 – having not defended it last year.

But the 23-year-old (right) expects the qualifying rounds to be as spectacular as the finals, with several riders eyeing the record books.

The Konya velodrome is among the world's fastest. Finucane was there in August to watch her partner Matthew Richardson become the first man to complete a flying 200 metre lap in less than nine seconds, with a new best of 8.857 seconds.

Finucane, who was speaking at the launch of Vauxhall becoming the official automotive partner of Team GB, said of watching Richardson's record lap: "It definitely did ignite something in me.

"I'd love to do it, we're going back to Konya and it will be a focus of mine. I am going to try to go sub-10 and break that world record."

China's Yuan Liying set the record of 9.976 seconds in Konya at March's Nations Cup.

COMMENT BY **ANDY DUNN**

Why ECB's top brass should be in the dock for England's Ashes humiliation

IMAGINE if the captain of the England football team had been involved in a scuffle with nightclub security on the eve of a match, gone on to play (badly) in that match, a match that his team lost.

His antics were mildly punished by the bosses of the national side but kept hidden until they emerged in a newspaper report two months later.

Imagine that. Imagine the furore.

When the headline referenced Harry Brook alongside a bouncer, instinct wondered if he tried to ramp it over the long leg boundary.

But it turns out Brook, captaining the one-day team in New Zealand ahead of the disastrous Ashes tour, was manhandled by a doorman while being refused entry to a club because the staff considered him to be drunk.

KEY

Repeat, a night before a match.

That Brook, apparently fined £30,000 for his misdemeanour by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), was allowed to carry on captaining the white-ball team is a damning indictment of the management that has facilitated an attitude in this England set-up that played a major part in the Ashes humiliation. The bottom line is that had England had a better-scheduled preparation period, they would have still been beaten.

The bottom line is that had England players been on the wagon for the entire trip and in bed by eight o'clock every night, they would have still been beaten.

The bottom line is that had England players gone nowhere

BOUNCERS, BOOZE AND A BLUNDER DOWN

GOULD DIGGER ECB chief will lead Ashes review

BAZ BACKS COACHING METHODS

FROM BACK PAGE

during which England have lost 17 and drawn two of their last 20 Tests in Australia.

The leadership group of McCullum, managing director Rob Key and captain Ben Stokes will be asked to accept some significant changes to the way they have operated over the last three-and-a-half years. But McCullum was lukewarm about the prospect of taking orders from above.

"I'm not against assistance, but I also have a firm belief in how to get the best out of these players," McCullum told BBC's Test Match Special.

"I'll look at it individually and say, 'Right, what could I have done better?' Am I for being told what to do? Of course I'm not. But I'm not pig-headed enough to think there's not some areas that we can improve on, once we digest what's unfolded and start to plot and plan a way forward.

"You do so with a similar conviction in your methods – albeit with a couple of tweaks."

Gould, who arrived in Sydney to watch the final stages of England's defeat, expressed his dissatisfaction at the level of performance. England's approach to warm-up cricket, acclimatisation, training and their much-discussed 'stag do' break in Noosa are all likely to be on the review's agenda.

Gould said: "This Ashes tour began with significant hope and anticipation, and it is therefore deeply disappointing. We were not consistent enough across all conditions and phases of the contest."

near a golf course, they would have still been beaten.

And on what is still a long trip, it is essential, for the mental health of everyone, that there is plenty of down-time, even if the infamous holiday in Noosa was popularly described by observers as a 'stag-do'.

Brook not being properly disciplined tells you everything you need to know

But the cameo of Brook not being properly disciplined for getting into nightclub bother in Wellington the night before a match tells you everything you need to know.

So, how can you trust ECB chief executive Richard Gould when he says there will be a "thorough review" of the Ashes campaign and that they "will implement the necessary changes over the coming months"?

Things are actually going quite well for the ECB. By their measurements – attendances, commercial investment, exposure, etc, etc – The Hundred has been a roaring success.

This summer's Test schedule and one-day international schedule will be a sell-out for England. There is no doubt about that.

And that allows for complacency to creep into the running of the England set-up. If the ECB put the tickets for the 2027 Ashes series on sale tomorrow, they would go in a heartbeat. So there are no material consequences to an Ashes loss.

So, that is what senior management should make sure does not pollute player performance and attitude. For example, by allowing an England captain to lead the side the day after he has been in a scrap with a nightclub bouncer suggests leading the national team does not matter as much as some think it should.

Yes, coach Brendon McCullum and Test captain Ben Stokes should carry the can for the debacle that has unfolded in Australia over the past couple of months, although those advocating their removal would struggle to come up with compelling alternatives.

But the decision-makers at the very top of the organisation that runs the show, Gould and Rob Key the managing director of England men's cricket, are the ones who should really be in the dock.

UNDER

IN THE LINE OF FIRE Stokes and England were crushed by Steve Smith's Aussies for the fourth time in five Tests in Sydney

SNAPPY DAYS Skipper Smith takes a photo of his jubilant Aussie squad

EMBARRASSED Brook says he has learned his lesson

Brook apology over nightclub flare-up

FROM **RORY DOLLARD**

HARRY BROOK has issued a public apology for becoming embroiled in a late-night incident in New Zealand just before the Ashes.

England's white-ball captain admitted his actions "brought embarrassment to both myself and the England team". A matter of hours after England's 4-1 defeat to Australia was confirmed in Sydney, and shortly after ECB chief executive Richard Gould launched a formal review into the series – including into the behaviour of players – the growing sense of crisis around the team deepened.

It was reported that Brook, who is also vice-captain of the Test side, was involved in a scuffle with a nightclub bouncer on October 31.

England lost an ODI to the Black Caps the next day, surrendering the series 3-0, with Brook scoring six.

It is understood that he was fined £30,000 after reporting the incident to team management.

"I want to apologise for my actions. I fully accept that my behaviour was wrong and brought embarrassment to both myself and the England team," he said in a personal statement.

"Representing England is the greatest honour of all, which I take seriously and I am deeply sorry for letting down my team-mates, coaches and supporters. I have reflected on the lessons it has taught me about responsibility, professionalism and the standards expected of those representing your country.

"I am determined to learn from this mistake and to rebuild trust through my future actions, both on and off the field."

ENGLAND ASHES RATINGS

ZAK CRAWLEY 3

Started the series with two ducks in Perth and bagged three more single-figure scores along the way. Was always earmarked as a big player for Australian conditions, but has not delivered.

273 RUNS AT 27.30

BEN DUCKETT 2

A nightmare tour for one of England's better players. Got starts but failed to produce a single half-century. Sloppy in the field and caught up in a regrettable social media clip in Noosa.

181 RUNS AT 20.11

OLLIE POPE 2

Looked tidy in the first Test but compiled a litany of careless dismissals before being dropped in Melbourne. Destined for a stint in county cricket.

125 RUNS AT 20.83

JOE ROOT 7

Ended a 12-year wait for an away Ashes century in Brisbane, then signed off with a second at Sydney. Struggled for rhythm elsewhere.

400 RUNS AT 44.44

HARRY BROOK 5

Did not deliver enough for a player of his ability and will be disappointed with two half-centuries in 10 visits. Will always regret an awful shot with England well set at the Gabba.

358 RUNS AT 39.77

BEN STOKES 6

Led with courage but not always clarity in tough conditions. Over-delivered with ball, but under-delivered with bat. Ended with another fitness worry.

184 RUNS AT 18.49; 15 WKTS AT 25.43

JACOB BETHELL 8

Bafflingly kept on ice until the series was lost. The 22-year-old made an important 40 in MCG victory and came of age with a wonderful 154 in Sydney.

205 RUNS AT 51.25; 1 WKT AT 68.00

JAMIE SMITH 3

A bruising experience for the Surrey wicketkeeper. An inexplicable drop at the Gabba and a farcical dismissal to Marnus Labuschagne will be hard to shake.

211 RUNS AT 23.44; 15 CATCHES

WILL JACKS 4

A wildcard selection who somehow ended up playing four Tests as a makeshift spinner and No.8 batter. Tried his best but was a square peg in a round hole.

145 RUNS AT 20.41; 6 WKTS AT 53.66

BRYDON CARSE 5

A confusing series for the robust quick. He bowled the most overs, led the wicket charts and stayed fit while others buckled. But was wayward, expensive and mis-used as a new-ball bowler.

22 WKTS AT 30.31

GUS ATKINSON 5

Crashed to earth after a fine start to his Test career, he struggled to cut through with the new ball and looked timid in the heat of battle.

6 WKTS AT 47.33

JOFRA ARCHER 6

Showed why England have invested so much in him with an excellent five-for and half-century in Adelaide, but fitness problems put him back on the shelf at 3-0 down.

9 WKTS AT 27.11

JOSH TONGUE 8

Missed out in Perth and Brisbane but his reputation soared in next three Tests, posing a constant threat and making a handy habit of dismissing Steve Smith.

18 WKTS AT 20.11

MARK WOOD 2

Rushed back after a long lay-off to start the series and broke down after just 11 overs. England badly missed his pace but at 35 the end looks close.

0 WKTS

MATTHEW POTTS 2

Played at the SCG as last man standing, but returned nought for 141 in the first innings and was frozen out in the second. Faces a long road back.

0 WKTS

DID NOT PLAY: Shoaib Bashir, Matthew Fisher.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Premier League

ARSENAL (0)..........0 LIVERPOOL (0)..... 0

Att: 60,258

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	21	15	4	2	40	14	49
Man City	21	13	4	4	45	19	43
Aston Villa	21	13	4	4	33	24	43
Liverpool	21	10	5	6	32	28	35
Brentford	21	10	3	8	35	28	33
Newcastle	21	9	5	7	32	27	32
Man Utd	21	8	8	5	36	32	32
Chelsea	21	8	7	6	34	24	31
Fulham	21	9	4	8	30	30	31
Sunderland	21	7	9	5	21	22	30
Brighton	21	7	8	6	31	28	29
Everton	21	8	5	8	23	25	29
Crystal Palace	21	7	7	7	22	23	28
Tottenham	21	7	6	8	30	27	27
Bournemouth	21	6	8	7	34	40	26
Leeds	21	5	7	9	29	37	22
Nottm Forest	21	6	3	12	21	34	21
West Ham	21	3	5	13	22	43	14
Burnley	21	3	4	14	22	41	13
Wolves	21	1	4	16	15	41	7

SNOOKER

BETVICTOR CH'SHIP LEAGUE (Leicester)—**Group 4:** K Wilson (Eng) bt X Zhao (Chn) 3-2; N Robertson (Aus) bt G Wilson (Eng) 3-2; M Selt (Eng) bt B Woollaston (Eng) 3-0; G Xiao (Chn) bt X Zhao (Chn) 3-0; K Wilson (Eng) bt G Wilson (Eng) 3-2; M Selt (Eng) bt N Robertson (Aus) 3-2; B Woollaston (Eng) bt G Xiao (Chn) 3-1; X Zhao (Chn) bt G Wilson (Eng) 3-2; G Xiao (Chn) bt M Selt (Eng) 3-2; N Robertson (Aus) bt K Wilson (Eng) 3-2; X Zhao (Chn) bt B Woollaston (Eng) 3-1; G Wilson (Eng) bt M Selt (Eng) 3-1.

TENNIS

ATP & WTA UNITED CUP (Australia)—**Quarter-Finals:** Z Bergs (Bel) bt J Mensik (Cze) 6-2 7-6 (7-4); E Mertens (Bel) bt B Krejcikova (Cze) 5-7 6-1 7-5; L Fruhvirtova (Cze) & D Svrcina (Cze) bt G Minnen (Bel) & S Gille (Bel) 6-7 (13-15) 6-3 10-3. *Belgium bt Czech Republic 2-1.*

ATP & WTA BRISBANE INT'NAL (Australia)—**Men's 2nd rd**: A Kovacevic (USA) bt C Norrie (Gbr) 7-6 (7-4) 4-6 6-4; B Nakashima (USA) bt Q Halys (Fra) 6-2 6-4; G Mpetshi Perricard (Fra) bt R Hijikata (Aus) 4-6 7-6 (7-5) 7-6 (7-4); R Collignon (Bel) bt G Dimitrov (Bul) 7-6 (7-1) 6-3.

Women's 3rd rd: A Sabalenka (Blr) bt S Cirstea (Rom) 6-3 6-3; E Rybakina (Kaz) bt P Badosa (Spa) 6-3 6-2; K Muchova (Cze) bt E Alexandrova (Rus) 6-4 7-5; M Keys (USA) bt D Shnaider (Rus) 6-7 (5-7) 7-6 (7-5) 7-6 (7-4); L Samsonova (Rus) bt A Sasnovich (Blr) 6-4 6-4; J Pegula (USA) bt D Yastremska (Ukr) 5-7 6-2 6-3; M Kostyuk (Ukr) bt A Anisimova (USA) 6-4 6-3; M Andreeva (Rus) bt L Noskova (Cze) 5-7 6-4 7-5.

WTA ASB CLASSIC (Auckland, New Zealand)—**2nd rd:** A Eala (Phi) bt P Marcinko (Cro) 6-0 6-2; M Linette (Pol) bt E Cocciaretto (Ita) 7-5 2-6 6-3; E Svitolina (Ukr) bt K Boulter (Gbr) 7-5 6-4; S Kartal (Gbr) bt E Seidel (Ger) 6-3 6-1.

ATP HONG KONG OPEN (China)—**2nd rd:** M Giron (USA) bt A Muller (Fra) 6-4 7-6 (7-4); J Shang (Chn) bt L Sonego (Ita) 6-3 6-4; M Mmoh (USA) bt K Khachanov (Rus) 7-6 (7-2) 7-6 (7-4); A Bublik (Kaz) bt B van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-3 6-3.

TODAY'S DIARY

(7.45pm unless stated)

Africa Cup Of Nations Quarter-Finals

Cameroon v Morocco (7pm)....................
(Live on E4)
Mali v Senegal (4pm)..............................
(Live on E4)

The Emirates FA Cup Third Round

Milton Keynes Dons v Oxford Utd (7.30)..
(Live on discovery+)
Port Vale v Fleetwood (7.30)...................
(Live on TNT Sports 5)
Preston North End v Wigan (7.30)..........
(Live on discovery+)
Wrexham v Nottingham Forest (7.30)......
(Live on TNT Sports 1)

William Hill Scottish Championship

Ross County v Partick..............................
(Live on BBC Scotland)

Isthmian Premier: Cray Wanderers v Aveley, Hashtag United v Dartford.

Welsh Premier League: Barry Tn United v Llanelli Tn, Caernarfon Tn v Connah's Quay Nomads, Flint Tn United v Bala Tn, Haverfordwest County v Briton Ferry, Penybont v Cardiff Met Uni, The New Saints FC v Colwyn Bay.

BASKETBALL

SLB (7.30): Manchester Basketball v Sheffield Sharks, Newcastle Eagles v London Lions, Surrey 89ers v Bristol Flyers.

CRICKET

2nd T20 Int'nal: Sri Lanka v Pakistan (Dambulla, 1.30pm).

ICE HOCKEY

Elite League (7.30): Coventry Blaze v Dundee Stars, Glasgow Clan v Sheffield Steelers.

RUGBY UNION

Investec Champions Cup Pool 2 (8pm): Castres v Bath, Edinburgh v Gloucester.

Leeds icon and Wales hero, as a player and manager

PLAYING WITH PRIDE Yorath in action for his country back in 1980 and (below) at Leeds United in 1970

'The impact that Terry had on Welsh football is immeasurable'

YORATH WAS JUST SO CLOSE TO TAKING NATION TO WORLD CUP

BY **PHIL BLANCHE**

TERRY YORATH was a member of that exclusive club of footballers who have played for and managed their country and was a penalty kick away from leading Wales to the 1994 World Cup.

Yorath, who has died aged 75, won 59 caps as a rugged midfielder between 1969 and 1981 before taking charge of the Wales national team in 1988.

Under Yorath, Wales reached their then-highest FIFA ranking of 27 in August 1993 and almost qualified for their second World Cup in the US in 1994.

Needing to beat Romania at home in their final qualifier, Wales were drawing 1-1 in the second half when Paul Bodin's penalty struck the crossbar.

Wales ended up losing 2-1 and, instead of being granted national hero status by taking the country to the World Cup, Yorath found himself out of work.

The Football Association of Wales did not renew Yorath's contract and appointed Real Sociedad's John Toshack as a part-time manager instead. But Yorath's former team-mate resigned after just one game with Welsh fans still upset at the dismissal of his predecessor.

Yorath was born in Cardiff in March 1950 and signed professional forms for Don Revie's Leeds at the age of 17.

At first he found it difficult to find a place in a Leeds midfield featuring Billy Bremner and Johnny Giles, and was on the bench for the FA Cup final defeat to Sunderland in 1973. That same year he did start in the European Cup Winners' Cup final loss to AC Milan.

But Yorath was a key member of Leeds' 1973-74 championship-winning team (right) as England-bound Revie marked his final season at Elland Road by beating Liverpool to the title by five points.

The following season Yorath became the first Welshman to play in the European Cup final when Leeds lost 2-0 to Bayern Munich.

But Yorath, by now skipper of a Wales team which would reach the quarter-finals of Euro '76, would move on to Coventry for £125,000 in 1976.

He was captain of a Coventry team that spent an entire first division season in the top 10 – the Sky Blues eventually finishing seventh – before joining Tottenham for £300,000 in 1979.

Yorath wound his career down at Vancouver Whitecaps in Canada and at Bradford, where he became assistant manager to his former Leeds team-mate Trevor Cherry. He was at Bradford in 1985 when 56 fans were killed by a fire.

After winning promotion at Swansea from the old fourth division, Yorath was appointed part-time manager of Wales.

He combined managerial roles at Swansea and Bradford with the national job before concentrating on Wales in 1991.

At the start of the 1992 World Cup campaign he suffered personal tragedy when his son Daniel died at the age of 15 from an undetected heart condition while playing football in the back garden.

The father of three other children, his daughter Gabby Logan became a well-known broadcaster and television presenter.

After his departure from Wales, Yorath managed Cardiff, the Lebanon national team, Sheffield Wednesday and Margate. He also had several coaching jobs elsewhere, but he never hit the heights that almost carried Wales to a World Cup on a tide of emotion.

Wales boss Craig Bellamy said: "The impact that Terry Yorath had on Welsh football is immeasurable.

"Terry epitomised everything it means to represent Cymru as a player, and watching the 1994 World Cup qualifying campaign with him as manager was the first time I experienced genuine belief that our country could qualify for a major tournament.

"As a country, we have so much to thank Terry for what he did.

"My thoughts and condolences are with Terry's family and friends during this difficult time, everyone in the Welsh football family will miss an incredible person."

'Thinker' Liam was destined to be the boss

JONES BACKING ROSENIOR

BY **NEIL MCLEMAN**

NATHAN JONES has praised new Chelsea boss Liam Rosenior as "a thinker" and "a leader" – even during his playing days.

The Charlton boss is proud to have played a part in Rosenior's development, but is now hoping to spoil the head coach's first match in charge of the Blues.

When he joined Brighton in 2015, aged 30, Rosenior revealed he wanted to learn from then assistant coach Jones (right). The defender was already studying for his A licence.

Since the end of his playing career, the former England Under-21 star has managed Derby, Hull and Strasbourg before arriving at Stamford Bridge this week.

"I enjoyed working with Liam," recalled Jones ahead of tomorrow's FA Cup third round tie at The Valley.

"I've kept in touch with him. He was a thinker of the game, so it's no surprise to me that he is a manager. He was very confident, very eloquent in how he spoke. He was a leader.

"Not a ranter or a raver, or a get-you-by-the-scruff-of-the-neck, but he was a leader.

"I didn't know he had wanted to learn from me – that is nice to know. If you can have a positive impact on anyone, I am proud of that.

"That is all you can do in life. If you can leave some sort of legacy on individuals or places, that is all we can strive to do.

"I saw Liam on Wednesday night, we had a brief chat. He's a logical fit for them and I'm sure he'll do well – I'm just hoping he has a really poor start at the weekend!"

Jones and Rosenior (inset) have both worked abroad – the former Luton defender played for two years in Spain while Rosenior has coached in France. But the Premier League is different.

Jones, 52, had a torrid experience coaching in the top flight when he lasted only 14 games with Southampton in 2022/23. As the results got worse, his interviews became even more bizarre.

"Nothing changes tactically," Jones said. "It's the media exposure. Every little thing is exposed, analysed, dissected. Sometimes innocent things get taken wrongly."

Jones, who led Charlton to promotion last season, added: "I don't want it to be about Liam Rosenior. It is a fantastic opportunity to showcase the club. I want the Valley rocking."

MAC ON RISE TO NO.2

BY **BOBBY VINCENT**

CALUM McFARLANE will become Liam Rosenior's assistant at Chelsea after his role as interim head coach.

McFarlane will leave his role as Under-21s head coach to work with the first team on a permanent basis.

He led Chelsea's senior side to an impressive 1-1 draw at Manchester City on Sunday while talks with Rosenior were ongoing. He took charge again on Wednesday against Fulham. Rosenior, who was appointed a little over 24 hours before the defeat at Craven Cottage, watched from the stands.

Rosenior was impressed with how McFarlane handled the squad in a difficult situation following Enzo Maresca's dramatic departure.

Chelsea take on Charlton Athletic in the FA Cup third round tomorrow, Rosenior's first game in charge.

ALL OUT FOOTBALL
IN THE MIXER
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With **OLIVIA BUZAGLO** and **JOLEON LESCOTT**

SMITH'S ARSENAL PAIN AFTER FIGHT CRITICISM

BY **BEN CRAWFORD**

ALAN SMITH was once barred from talking to Arsenal players at the training ground after criticising them during a clash with Manchester United.

Smith (inset) scored 115 goals in 351 appearances for the Gunners and moved into punditry after retiring in 1995. He has been a Sky Sports commentator for 31 years.

In 2003 he covered the infamous 'Battle of Old Trafford' when a Patrick Vieira red card and late Ruud van Nistelrooy penalty miss caused a brawl at full-time involving Martin Keown (far right).

Smith reveals his subsequent negative comments about his former club saw regular visits to Arsenal's training ground scrapped.

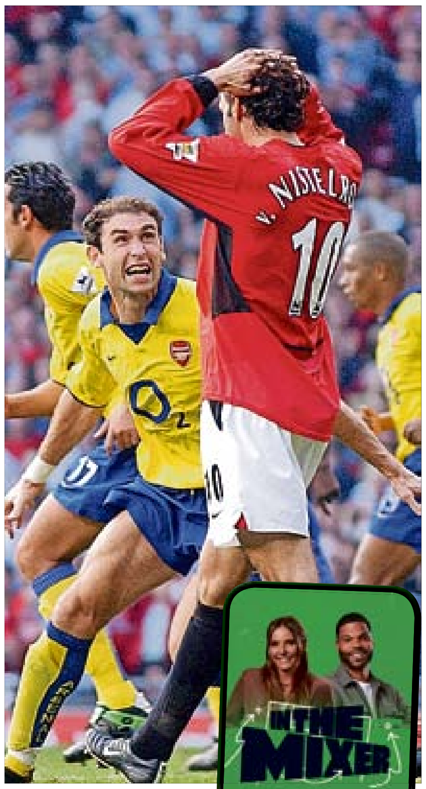
"I went up there to write but they asked me to do the match because Alan Shearer got ill," said Smith, speaking on In The Mixer, brought to you by Sky Bet. "It was 0-0 then it all kicked off at the end. I said, 'I think Arsenal have overstepped the mark here. They're a bit out of order Martin Keown and that'.

"Then I went downstairs and wrote a similar column. None of it went down well with Arsenal, the fact I'd criticised them.

"At the time I was writing a monthly column, an interview with an Arsenal player. I was going into the training ground.

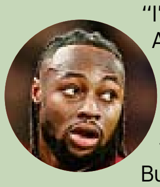
"When it came to doing my next one the phone hadn't rung. So I rang my editor and said, 'Do you know what's happening?'

"He went, 'Alan they don't want you coming in anymore. They feel you can't be slagging them off and then coming and being all pally'. That wasn't a great time for me."



Deals could make City slicker in race

ARSENAL icon Alan Smith fears Antoine Semenyo and Marc Guehi could give Manchester City a title advantage.



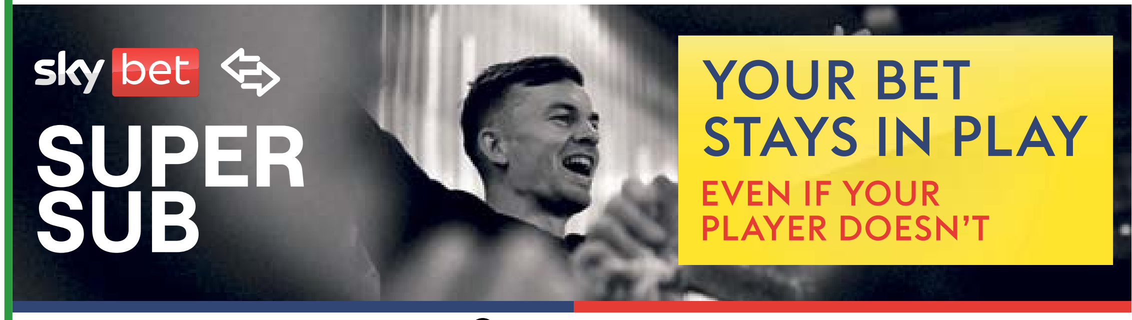
Pep Guardiola's side acted quickly to get the jump on rivals with Semenyo (inset). Josko Gvardiol is now sidelined with a fractured tibia and City have been linked with Crystal Palace skipper Guehi.

If City make these additions, Smith worries it could help them beat his former club Arsenal to the Premier League title.

"I'm a bit worried about City and Antoine Semenyo and if they get Marc Guehi," said Smith. "I don't like that at all.

"I think Arsenal are better in terms of squad at the moment. But if City are breathing down their necks with four or five games to go, how will Arsenal handle it?"

WATCH IN THE MIXER NOW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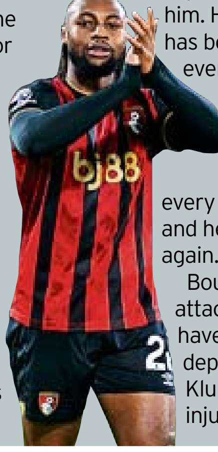
Semenyo plunged into Cup fray after £62.5m City move

BY **RYAN TAYLOR**

ANTOINE SEMENYO is in line to make his Manchester City debut in tomorrow's FA Cup third round clash against Exeter at the Etihad.

The Ghana international arrived in Manchester yesterday morning to undergo his medical ahead of joining from Bournemouth on a five-and-a-half year deal.

Semenyo, 26, sealed a fairytale ending to his Cherries career by netting a 95th-minute winner against Tottenham. As part of the deal, Bournemouth negotiated that Semenyo (below) would stay for an extra three matches.



That meant he was available for the games against Chelsea, Arsenal and Spurs. They secured a club-record sale worth an initial £62.5million, £2.5m above Semenyo's release clause.

That figure is greater than any of the offers the club received last summer – Manchester United and Spurs both had bids rejected – and is payable over two years.

The Cherries could receive an extra £1.5m in bonuses and have wrangled a 10 percent sell-on clause.

Bournemouth boss Andoni Iraola has backed Semenyo, who registered 32 goals and 13 assists in 110 appearances after arriving from Bristol City in 2023, to thrive at City.

"He's a big miss for us, he's a player that you cannot replace," said Iraola. "He's an incredible player. I don't know how they are going to use him. He's a player that has been improving every single season.

"He has gone through lower divisions, stepping up every single season, and he's ready to do it again. I hope he does."

Bournemouth's attacking options have been further depleted by Justin Kluivert's knee injury.

SESKO LOOKS ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

BY **SIMON PEACH**

BENJAMIN SESKO believes "great things are coming" – despite managerless Manchester United's winless start to 2026.

The Red Devils are deciding on Ruben Amorim's replacement after ending his underwhelming 14-month reign.

Darren Fletcher took charge for the 2-2 draw with Burnley, which left United seventh in the Premier League and within touching distance of the Champions League places. Sesko (right), who scored a brace at Turf Moor, is confident they can end a bumpy season on a high.

The summer signing was asked whether United looked like a resilient group with togetherness, and replied: "Definitely.

"We're a really great group. We're doing everything to try to prove ourselves every single time. We just have to keep going, keep pushing, because I believe that great things are coming."

Fletcher will be caretaker boss for Sunday's FA Cup tie against Brighton as talks continue with leading candidates Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Michael Carrick about taking the role for the remainder of the season.

Sesko, 22, has struggled since his move from RB Leipzig, but said of his double strike: "It feels great because we created great chances. We are showing what we are capable of. It's great for the future."

LACK OF THE NET

Arteta left stinging in the rain as leaders miss ANOTHER chance to go eight clear at the top

GUNNERS GONERS
Trossard (left) and Rice (right) shoot, but Liverpool's Red Wall was too strong

ARSENAL	0
LIVERPOOL	0

BY **JOHN CROSS**

ARSENAL regained their six-point lead at the top of the Premier League table.

But Mikel Arteta's side will know this was an opportunity wasted to really stamp their authority on the title race.

Two points dropped rather than one gained against an injury-ravaged Liverpool team when victory would have sent Arsenal eight clear and delivered a clear message to rivals Manchester City and Aston Villa.

The failure to take full advantage will once again raise the old doubts about whether Arteta's men have got the mentality to finally get over the line after finishing runners-up for the past three seasons running.

Incredibly, it was the first time Arsenal have failed to score in a match in all competitions since they lost at Liverpool on August 31. And, once again, misfiring striker Viktor Gyokeres drew a blank. The Swedish forward made just eight touches in 64 minutes – his fewest touches in a match when he has played for at least 20 minutes.

Arsenal's pre-match light show – with a video entitled "fire up the furnace" – even fell flat.

The game was distinctly lukewarm, despite the magnitude of the occasion. To be fair, it was loud and rocking at the Emirates on a cold, rain-swept night as north London braced itself for Storm Goretti to take hold. But the sense of expectation turned to frustration for Arsenal.

The weather conditions made for a heavy, wet pitch and the ball zipped at great speed across the turf.

It certainly did not make life easier, but it was very much the same for both sides.

Leandro Trossard got an early booking for pulling back Florian Wirtz, but generally Arsenal were in command with Liverpool sitting deep as Bukayo Saka looked to create down the right.

But just when you thought Arsenal were on top, they had a real scare which suddenly made their mean defence look very vulnerable. There was a mix-up between William Saliba and David Raya, as the Arsenal keeper was nearly caught out by the back pass and just about reacted to hack the ball clear. It fell straight to Liverpool full-back Conor Bradley, who tried an ambitious chip from 30 yards out.

His effort hit the underside of the bar and came out to leave the Arsenal fans with their hearts in their mouths.

Arsenal had lots of possession but were struggling to create clear-cut chances.

Declan Rice drilled in a shot which Liverpool keeper Alisson Becker saved.

But Arsenal's biggest frustration was once again with their £64million centre-forward Gyokeres, who has so far failed to live up to his price tag and the high expectations that come with it.

The arguments about how hard he works and how he ties defenders up in knots are compelling,

NOT FAB FOR GAB

Gabriel Jesus shows his frustration after Arsenal miss a chance to take the lead

PREMIER TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	21	15	4	2	40	14	49
Man City	21	13	4	4	45	19	43
Aston Villa	21	13	4	4	33	24	43
Liverpool	21	10	5	6	32	28	35
Brentford	21	10	3	8	35	28	33
Newcastle	21	9	5	7	32	27	32
Man Utd	21	8	8	5	36	32	32
Chelsea	21	8	7	6	34	24	31
Fulham	21	9	4	8	30	30	31
Sunderland	21	7	9	5	21	22	30
Brighton	21	7	8	6	31	28	29
Everton	21	8	5	8	23	25	29
Crystal Palace	21	7	7	7	22	23	28
Tottenham	21	7	6	8	30	27	27
Bournemouth	21	6	8	7	34	40	26
Leeds	21	5	7	9	29	37	22
Nottm Forest	21	6	3	12	21	34	21
West Ham	21	3	5	13	22	43	14
Burnley	21	3	4	14	22	41	13
Wolves	21	1	4	16	15	41	7

PREMIER LEAGUE

ARSENAL		LIVERPOOL
48%	POSSESSION	52%
4	SHOTS ON TARGET	0
1	SHOTS OFF TARGET	5
457	TOTAL PASSES	506
3	CORNERS	0
2	OFFSIDE	1
10	FOULS	9
0 3	CARDS	2 0

REF: Anthony Taylor **ATT:** 60,258

LINE-UPS

ARSENAL (4-3-3): Raya; Timber, Saliba, Gabriel, Hincapie (Lewis-Skelly, 57); Zubimendi, Rice, Odegaard (Eze 78); Saka (Madueke 78), Trossard (Martinelli, 64), Gyokeres (Jesus, 64)

LIVERPOOL (4-3-3): Alisson; Bradley (Gomez 95), Van Dijk, Konate, Kerkez; Gravenberch, Mac Allister, Szoboszlai; Frimpong, Wirtz, Gakpo

MAN OF THE MATCH

RYAN GRAVENBERCH

but this was a night when Arsenal needed him in the box.

But time and again, Gyokeres was dropping too deep as he went in search of the ball, but was nowhere to be seen when Arsenal put over a cross.

Arsenal's level dropped badly after half-time and Liverpool were on the front foot.

It was no surprise when Gyokeres was hooked by Arteta (right) for Gabriel Jesus. Arsenal, even after bringing on Jesus and Gabriel Martinelli, could not find the extra gear they needed.

Liverpool could sense their moment as the game wore on and the nerves crept into the stadium. Ultimately, Arsenal fell away and it was Liverpool who finished stronger, with the home side probably happy to get a point.

GUEHI CHASE

BY **JOHN CROSS**

ARSENAL are ready to enter the race for England defender Marc Guehi.

Manchester City are red-hot favourites to sign the Crystal Palace captain after making a big push to get the deal done this month.

But the Gunners have joined Liverpool and Bayern Munich in the pursuit of the 25-year-old, who becomes a free agent in the summer.

It remains to be seen whether Arsenal would be willing to make a bid now or would opt to bide their time until Guehi's contract expires. It will take a huge offer from City to persuade Palace to sell this month even though Guehi's contract is running down.

The Eagles must weigh up the potential value of keeping Guehi, or demand a fee of around £40million.

Palace boss Oliver Glasner said: "I'm pretty sure our chairman will ask for a very high price."

Romero causes big storm over attack

FROM BACK PAGE

don't – as has been happening for several years now. They only show up when things are going well, to tell a few lies."

Team-mate Richarlison commented on the post with a clapping hands emoji, as defender Pedro Porro replied: "Amen. Keep going, brother. We have a lot of battles left."

It is not the first time Romero has taken aim at the Tottenham hierarchy.

But Frank and Spurs' technical director Johan Lange spoke with Romero yesterday morning about the post and says he will not be punished.

"He is our captain, he's not been fined. It's an internal thing, but we haven't done that," said Frank.

"There are a lot of ways to deal with different situations. We have chosen to have a good conversation with him, understand where he stands, handle it internally and that's everything I have to say."

Porro, Micky van de Ven and Joao Palhinha were seen exchanging words with fans in the away end after Wednesday's match and Frank (above) admitted there may come a point where he has to "draw a line".

He said: "You talk about having to draw a line, I think if it's the exact same situation that they do. You can make a mistake, but don't make the same mistake twice."

SWANS SIGN WARD

BY **JOHN CROSS**

JOEL WARD is joining Swansea as a free agent on a contract until the end of the season.

Defender Ward, 36, has been without a club since leaving Crystal Palace after winning the FA Cup. Ward, who had 13 years at Palace, was even given the honour of lifting the cup.

Swansea have been looking to strengthen their squad and versatile defender Ward is an ideal signing for the Championship club.

It is also a great opportunity for Ward who has made it clear that he did not wish to retire after leaving Palace last summer.

A bad hair day for 'inexperienced' ref

BY **CONNOR O'NEILL**

JAMES TARKOWSKI claims Thomas Kirk's lack of Premier League experience contributed to Michael Keane's sending off in Wednesday's draw with Wolves.

The Everton centre-back was shown a red card for violent conduct after pulling Tolu Arokodare's hair as the pair competed in an aerial duel.

He was given his marching orders by Kirk following a VAR intervention.

But Everton manager David Moyes was furious at the "ridiculous" decision and the club have lodged an appeal.

Tarkowski (above) couldn't believe what had happened, saying: "I don't think anyone can believe it. The referee said the letter of the law is if you pull someone's hair, it is violent conduct.

"But I think there has to be an act of violence for it to be violent conduct. We all know Keano, he is the nicest fella around and never intends to do anything.

"I think he catches his hair for half a second, and I even spoke to their lad, and he was saying he wasn't asking for a red card. He just said that my hair got pulled.

"I know what the rule is, but I didn't see any intent there, and the referee is inexperienced and probably doesn't know the players very well at this level. And if you know Keano, you know he has never intended to do anything like that."

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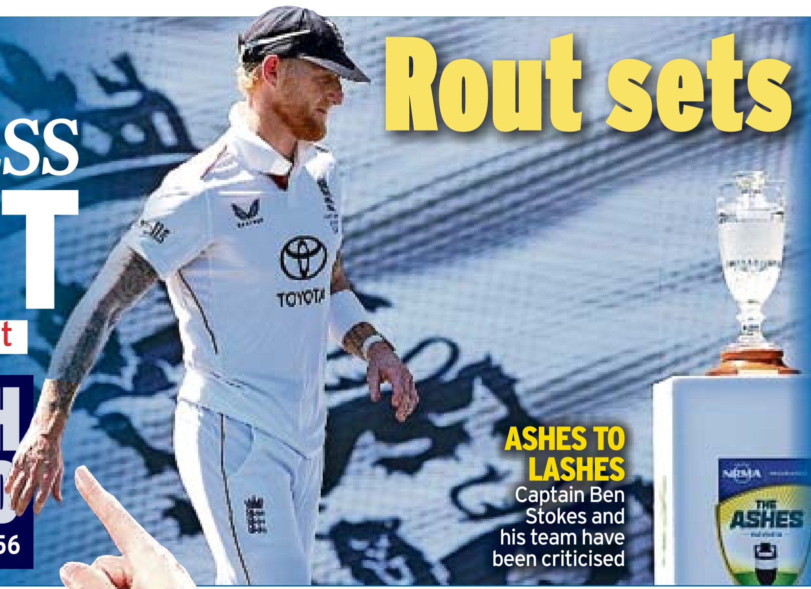
ICON YORATH MOURNED

Tribute to legend: P56

Rout sets up Bazbrawl clash



ASHES TO LASHES Captain Ben Stokes and his team have been criticised

BRENDON McCULLUM could be on a collision course with the ECB as the fallout from England's Ashes debacle takes hold.

A five-wicket defeat in the final Test in Sydney closed the book on a dreadful tour.

High hopes of bringing the urn back home dissolved into another heavy defeat as England lost the series 4-1.

The ECB wasted no time in confirming a formal review was in motion, with chief executive Richard Gould revealing that it would cover "tour planning and preparation, individual performance and behaviours, and our ability to adapt and respond effectively".

He added: "We will implement the necessary changes over the coming months."

But head coach McCullum (left) has suggested he would not be open to "being told what to do" just to retain his England role.

Defeat continued a dismal streak spanning four separate campaigns,

TURN TO PAGE 54, COLUMN 4

ARSENAL 0 0 LIVERPOOL

STORM WARNING Arteta is left frustrated as his side fail to find a way past Liverpool

REDS REIN IN GUNS

Arsenal blow chance to go eight clear

BY **JOHN CROSS**

MIKEL ARTETA watched in frustration as Arsenal blew the chance to go eight points clear in the title race.

The would-be champions could not overcome the reigning champions at the Emirates as the night ended in a stalemate.

It also ended in a mass brawl deep into injury time as Arsenal substitute Gabriel Martinelli and Liverpool defender Ibrahima Konate clashed.

Martinelli enraged Liverpool after throwing the ball at Liverpool's Conor Bradley while he was on the floor injured.

Liverpool came closest to winning as Bradley hit the bar in the first half while Arsenal suffered another defensive injury as Piero Hincapie (left) went off hurt in the second half.

MATCH REPORT: PAGES 58-59

BOILING POINT Martinelli clashes with Liverpool players after Bradley injury

ROMERO'S BLAST FOR THE 'LIARS' AT SPURS

BY **ALASDAIR GOLD**

TOTTENHAM captain Cristian Romero vented his fury at the club's board – accusing them of being 'liars' in a hastily amended social media rant following their 3-2 defeat at Bournemouth.

But under-fire Spurs boss Thomas Frank has made it clear Romero will remain Tottenham's captain and will not be fined for his outburst.

The Argentine aired his frustration in an Instagram post that took aim at those inside the club who he claimed "tell a few lies".

Romero (right) later deleted those four words but still left a powerful message that was liked and replied to by a number of his team-mates.

His original post to his 5.1million followers included an apology to the Spurs fans before admitting the players are responsible for their current slump and will "stay here, working, sticking together and giving our all to turn things around".

But Romero added: "At times like this, it should be other people coming out to speak, but they

TURN TO PAGE 59, COLUMN 5

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Puzzles

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, row, and 3x3 square includes all of the digits from one to nine. **Solutions on Monday**

EASY

	1			9			2	
2	4			7	5		8	3
		8	3		1			6
		1		5		7		
9	6						5	8
		3		4		2		
		5	9		4			2
8	9		1				7	5
	3			8		6	9	

MEDIUM

3	4			6			8	2
			4		9			
	5	8				9		6
	2		8		4		6	
					6			1
9	1		2		7		3	
		7	6			3		
			5		3			
8	3			9			2	5

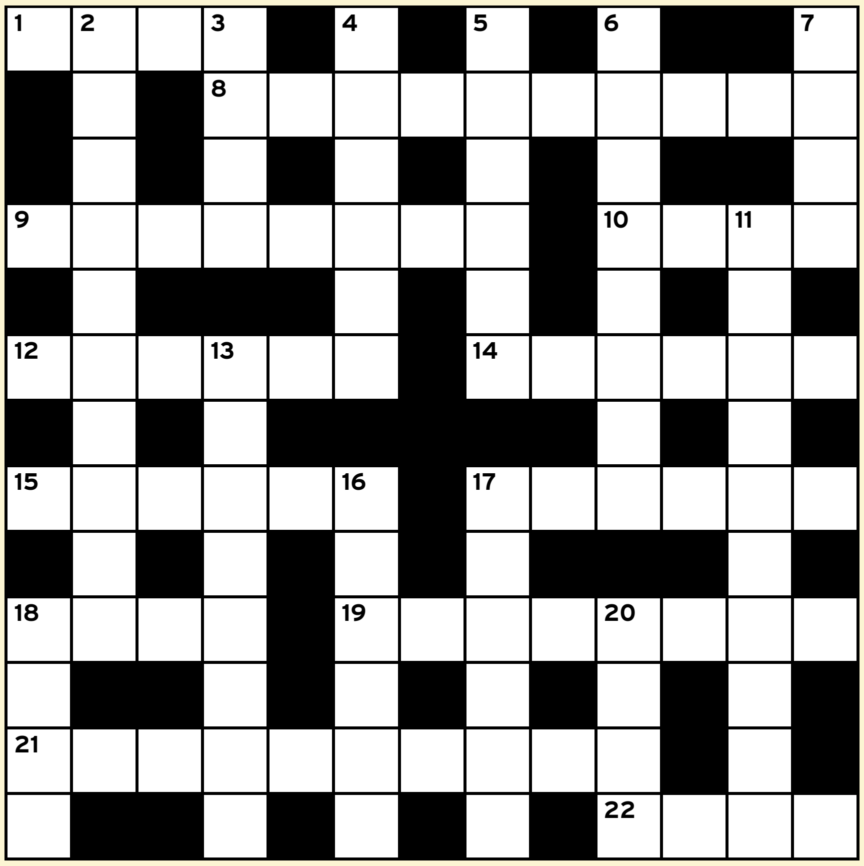
DIFFICULT

		1	2		4			
	5	8		1	9			
								5
	9	7		2				8
	3						4	
2				6		3	7	
7								
			5	9		2	3	
			1		8	7		

Extra clues:
0901 322 5609
**Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Today's solution:
0907 181 2573
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Opinion (4)
8 Distinction (10)
9 Furtive (4-4)
10 Whirlpool (4)
12 Dwarf (6)
14 Opportunity (6)
15 Mode (6)
17 Come back (6)
18 Carry (4)
19 Part (8)
21 Methodical (10)
22 Attention (4)

DOWN
2 Nullify (10)
3 Feeble (4)
4 Address (6)
5 Minister (6)
6 Applicable (8)
7 Considerably (4)
11 Ornamental (10)
13 Produce (8)
16 Summary (6)
17 Credit (6)
18 Low (4)
20 Opulent (4)

Solution on Monday

Stuck on the puzzle? Call **0905 789 4188** to hear individual clues or the full solution

Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. Service provider Spoke Ltd – **Helpline 0333 202 3390*

CROSS DOUBT

Target times: Average: **18 mins** Good: **14 mins** Excellent: **10 mins**

Stuck? Call for a clue
0901 322 5601
Halve your Target Time!

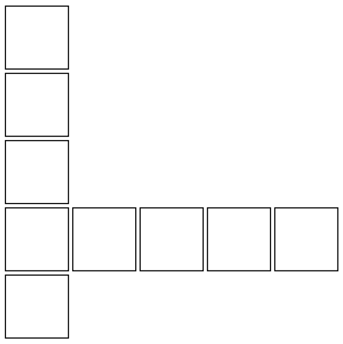
Today's solution
0901 322 5607
Both today's words in a moment!

**Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

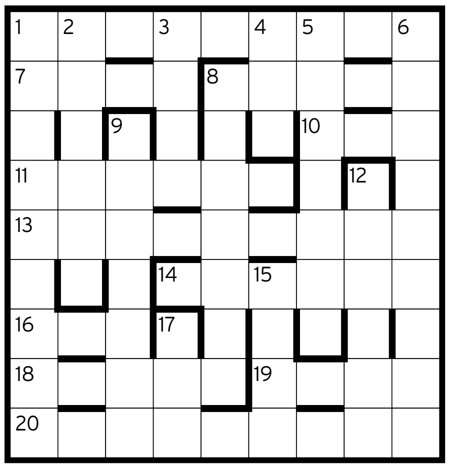
Can you make two common five-letter words from the nine letters given, using each letter only once? You can – but only if one letter features in both words in the squares on the right. There's at least one way to do it, and you have to have the right letter at the crossover – but which one is it?

See if you can find the answer within our target time. If you need help, ring our clue-line below to find out the crossover letter. **Solution on Monday**

C D D E L N O R U



SMALL CROSSWORD



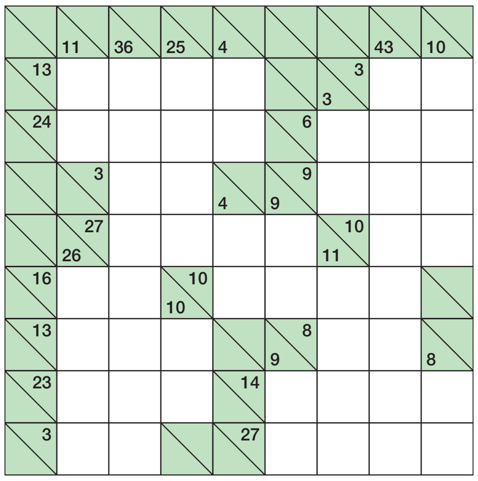
ACROSS
1 Hoard (9)
7 Bridge shape (4)
8 Cloudless and bright (5)
10 Enemy (3)
11 Agree (6)
13 Signature (9)
14 _ Christie, author (6)
16 Neckwear item (3)
18 Fatuous (5)
19 Single currency (4)
20 Bottle opener (9)

DOWN
1 Mocking (9)
2 Test (3,3)
3 Fashionable (4)
4 Placed (3)
5 Puff up (7)
6 Swede ahoy (anag.) (9)
8 Cuddle up (7)
9 Aardvark (3,4)
12 Orb (6)
15 Smart _, a know-it-all (4)
17 Fluid in a pen (3)

Solution on Monday

For today's solution call:
0907 181 2582
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

KAKURO



Fill each sequence of blank squares using the numbers 1-9. Each sequence – across and down – must total the number in the shaded box at the beginning or top of each line. A number may be repeated in each line but NOT in a sequence.

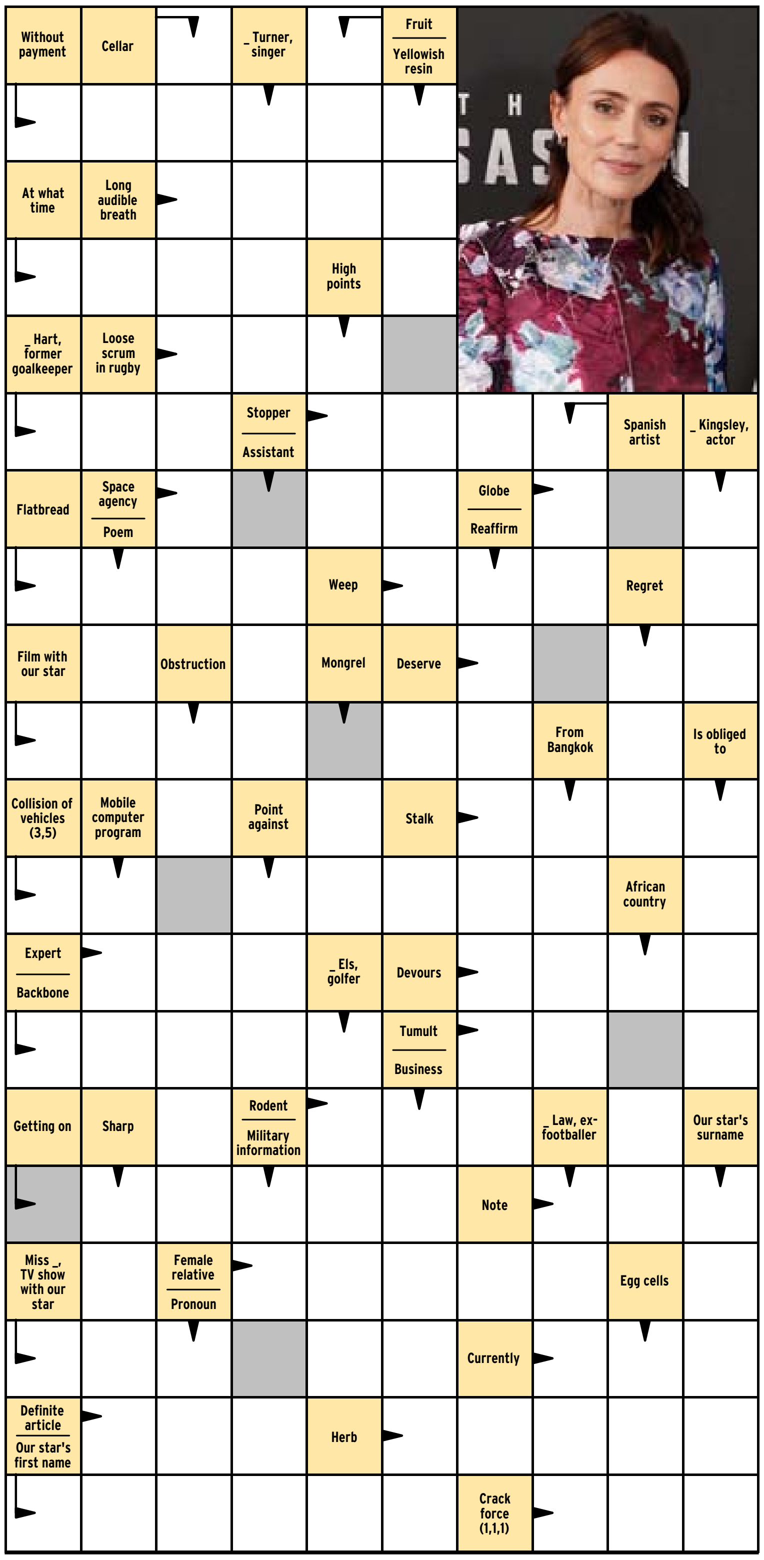
Solution on Monday

Puzzles

ARROW-WORD

Enter your answers as indicated by the arrows, including items connected with our TV star, then read the letters in the shaded squares to spell the character she voices in a computer game series (4,5).

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out


Without payment
Cellar
_ Turner, singer
Fruit
Yellowish resin
At what time
Long audible breath
High points
_ Hart, former goalkeeper
Loose scrum in rugby
Stopper
Assistant
Spanish artist
_ Kingsley, actor
Flatbread
Space agency
Poem
Globe
Reaffirm
Weep
Regret
Film with our star
Obstruction
Mongrel
Deserve
From Bangkok
Is obliged to
Collision of vehicles (3,5)
Mobile computer program
Point against
Stalk
African country
Expert
Backbone
_ Els, golfer
Devours
Tumult
Business
Getting on
Sharp
Rodent
Military information
_ Law, ex-footballer
Our star's surname
Note
Miss _, TV show with our star
Female relative
Pronoun
Egg cells
Currently
Definite article
Our star's first name
Herb
Crack force (1,1,1)

DITLOIDS

If we asked you what "7 D of the W" stood for, you would soon guess we meant 7 Days of the Week, but what are the rather more tricky ones below?

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

1) 366 D in a L Y

2) 4 W and a F

3) 77 S S

4) 127 S to the B S

5) 6 F U

6) 1 D at a T

MUDDLESOME

We've scrambled up the names of famous portrait painters. Can you work out what they are?

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

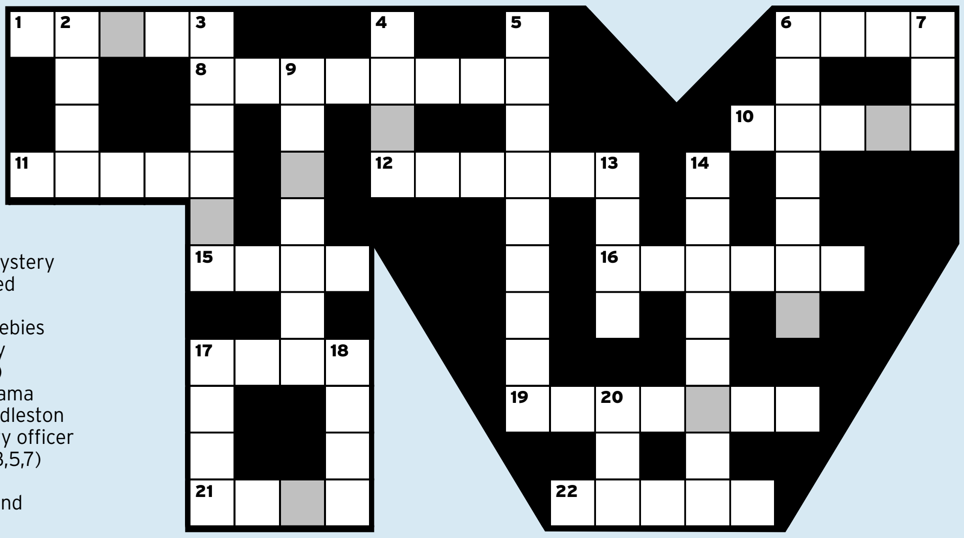
ONE GERMY OGRE

WHOLE SACRAMENT

VOCALISE AIR

TV CROSSWORD

Solve our crossword, then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares to reveal the name of a TV show (4,4).


1
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13
14
15
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21
22

ACROSS

1 Pretty Little _, mystery series that starred Lucy Hale (5)
6 ___ And Me, CBeebies show narrated by Nina Sosanya (4)
8 & 6 Down BBC drama starring Tom Hiddleston as former military officer Jonathan Pine (3,5,7)
10 ___ Potts, star of Young Sheldon and Any Day Now (5)
11 Hazbin ___, adult animated show about the Crown Princess of Hell (5)
12 ___ Colman, actress whose TV credits include Peep Show and The Bear (6)
15 ___ Baldwin, actor who played Jack Donaghy in 30 Rock (4)
16 Jonathan ___, actor who plays Lord Anthony Bridgerton in Bridgerton (6)
17 ___ Of Proof, 2010s drama which starred Dana Delany (4)
19 Amy ___, actress who has starred in Emmerdale and Downton Abbey (7)
21 Nickname of Alison O'Donnell's character in Shetland (4)
22 The ___ Up, new drama about divorce lawyers with Sanjeev Bhaskar (5)

DOWN

2 ___ the Badlands, post-apocalyptic drama whose stars included Orla Brady (4)
3 Comedy-drama which starred Ruth Jones as the titular mum of three (6)
4 Children's animated show in which the title character is a black cat (4)
5 Juliet ___, actress who plays Dr Helena Goldberg in Professor T. (9)
6 See 8 Across
7 Simon ___, screenwriter who wrote Men Behaving Badly and The Durrells (3)
9 Harry ___, actor who played Prince Charles in The Windsors (7)
13 Jessica ___, actress whose TV credits include Dark Angel and L.A.'s Finest (4)
14 US police procedural drama which starred David Caruso as Horatio "H" Caine (3:5)
17 __ Medicine, US remake of Doc Martin, starring Josh Charles (4)
18 Michelle ___, actress who plays Philippa Georgiou in the Star Trek universe (4)
20 ___ Of The Pops, charts show which last aired in 2006 (3)

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

QUIZ OF THE WEEK

1 Colonel Mustard is a character from which popular murder mystery game?

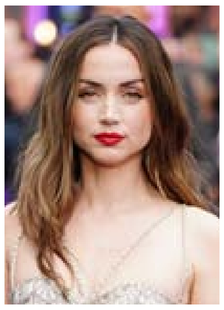
2 Which dancer, actor and singer did Ginger Rogers star with in RKO musical films during the 1930s?

3 In which decade was Mel B of the Spice Girls born?

4 Regarding the international treaties, what does the S in SALT stand for?

5 Which country does the girl group Las Ketchup come from?

6 Sage is another name for what – a wise man, a Japanese alcoholic drink, a light blue colour?



7 Which musical instrument is Flea of the Red Hot Chili Peppers famous for playing?

8 What word goes before 'Onions' to form the name of a 1960s instrumental hit single by Booker T & The M.G.'s?

9 In rugby union, for which northern hemisphere country does flanker Guy Pepper play?

10 Which Bond girl does Ana De Armas play in the 2021 film No Time To Die?

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

TRIVIA WORDSEARCH

1 What was the title of Dutch rock group Golden Earring's 1973 greatest hit? (5,4)
2 Which breed of swans on the Thames traditionally belong to the sovereign? (4)
3 Steve Coogan's comic TV personality Alan Partridge is associated with which Norfolk town? (7)
4 The Piper at the Gates of Dawn was the debut album by which British rock group? (4,5)
5 Which mythical bird completes the title of the Shakespeare poem 'The ------- and the Turtle', where turtle is short for turtle dove? (7)
6 How many bishops of the Church of England sit in the House of Lords as Lords Spiritual? (6-3)
7 Ralph McTell's song Maddy Dances is a tribute to the lead singer with which British folk-rock group? (8,4)
8 Which 18th-century physician developed the idea of vaccination against smallpox, after noting that milkmaids were generally immune to the disease? (6,6)
9 The collective noun for geese when on the ground is a gaggle, but what word is used for a group of geese in flight? (5)
10 Who did Ringo Starr replace as drummer with The Beatles? (4,4)

The Twelve Days Of Christmas. Solve the clues and find the answers in the grid. **Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out**

H	O	C	U	S	P	O	E	C	U	S	S	B
R	N	R	O	C	E	R	D	S	H	T	I	A
A	M	A	N	R	T	I	W	C	K	Y	X	R
D	R	P	P	T	E	O	A	R	O	E	F	X
A	E	T	H	S	B	N	R	E	R	E	I	S
R	P	U	O	T	E	G	D	E	E	S	F	N
L	U	R	E	A	S	Y	J	M	Y	I	Y	R
O	O	P	N	E	T	E	E	T	N	B	T	D
V	H	C	I	W	R	O	N	L	D	R	A	Y
E	A	K	X	N	W	E	N	O	E	T	U	M
O	D	A	I	S	W	H	E	S	P	E	E	B
R	S	T	R	T	N	O	R	T	H	G	T	I
B	D	Y	O	L	F	K	N	I	P	R	B	S

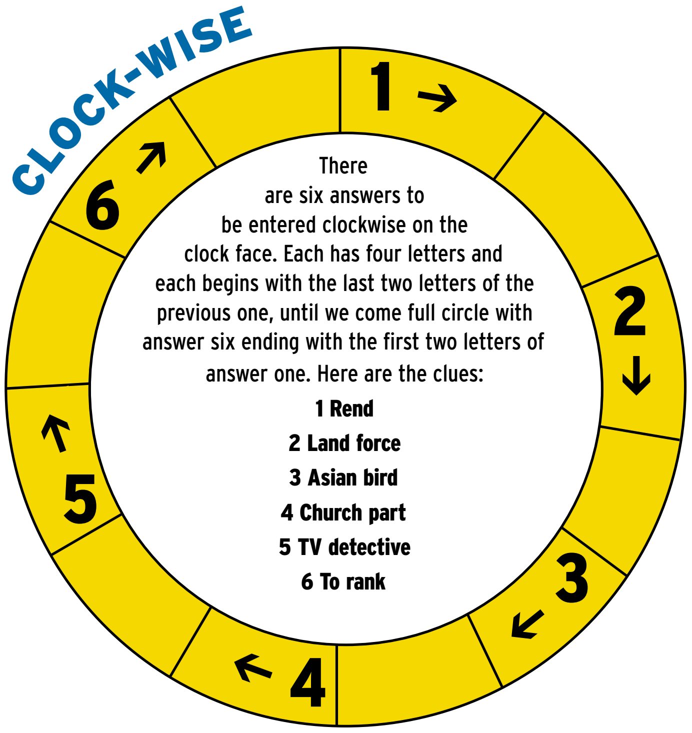
WORDS

In the following passage, the numbers 12345 represent different letters:

"Eww Mum, not this again!" exclaimed 4533, attempting to 3124 the flies circling the steaming bowl of 3451. "It 423453 gross and I always get the 315243! I doubt you'll find anyone, from the 5234 to the 1534, even stranded at 352, who 123 willing to try this!". "Just 524 it and stop being a 45235," came the reply, "I won't see it go to 12345!"

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

CLOCK-WISE



There are six answers to be entered clockwise on the clock face. Each has four letters and each begins with the last two letters of the previous one, until we come full circle with answer six ending with the first two letters of answer one. Here are the clues:

1 Rend
2 Land force
3 Asian bird
4 Church part
5 TV detective
6 To rank

SUMTHING

Fit the missing numbers into the grid so that all the sums are correct – reading left to right or on single lines top to bottom. There are 11 squares to fill, with one digit in each, and the 11 digits you must use are listed below. But where do they all go?

Solution in Monday's puzzle pull-out

We've given you one digit to get you started. Here are the missing digits to fit in:

0, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 9

	×		=		
+		–		÷	
	×	6	=		
=		=		=	
	+		=		

THE ULTRA ALPHAPUZZLE®

2	16	6	22	■	1	22	18	19	16	20	22	■
22	■	1	■	16	■	10	■	1	■	19	■	14
6	1	24	16	10	■	19	1	9	24	10	16	20
20	■	12	■	3	■	8	■	7	■	6	■	8
4	24	21	6	16	10	9	■	■	12	19	1	26
8	■	■	■	23	■	4	■	17	■	8	■	■
5	16	9	21	22	6	■	26	22	6	1	16	20
■	■	7	■	21	■	24	■	13	■	■	■	19
4	19	26	22	■	■	5	21	8	26	17	22	1
16	■	10	■	1	■	24	■	22	■	21	■	1
23	16	24	21	22	20	6	■	14	21	24	11	22
22	■	14	■	24	■	4	■	6	■	25	■	20
■	14	6	19	1	22	7	14	■	10	22	15	6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
R	K											
14	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**

A B C D E F G H I J ~~K~~ L M N O P Q ~~R~~ S T U V W X Y Z

WELCOME to the ULTRA Alphapuzzle™ – the 'extra-tough' version of Britain's favourite wordpower challenge. Each grid number represents a different letter. All 26 letters are used.

TARGET TIME:
30 minutes.
Solution next Friday

Alternatively, for 6 extra clues to your mobile, text:

DXALPHAX to 64343

Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate.

For up to six Extra Clue Letters, call:

0907 181 2578*

(Deduct three minutes from Target Time for each extra letter heard)

Full solution: **0907 181 2579***
Across only: **0907 181 2576***
Down only: **0907 181 2577***

*Calls cost 80p per minute plus your phone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke. **Helpline 0333 202 3390**

Last Friday's solution
Across: Ajar, Perfume, Graph, Prosaic, Lunatic, Plod, Cobweb, Census, Vine, Upstage, Candour, Token, Waylays, Helm.
Down: Angelic, Vice, Again, Bonanza, Chutney, Foul, Expect, Quarry, Frog, Density, Measles, Ankle, Acid, Sternum.

Alphapuzzle® © 2024 Acorn Editorial Ltd

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SAMURAI SUDOKU

2	5	9	3	6	7	4	8	1				9	8	1	4	5	3	6	7	2
8	1	7	9	4	5	2	3	6				2	6	4	7	9	1	3	8	5
4	3	6	2	1	8	5	7	9				5	7	3	2	6	8	4	1	9
9	4	1	8	5	3	7	6	2				1	5	9	8	3	6	2	4	7
5	7	3	6	2	9	1	4	8				3	2	7	5	1	4	9	6	8
6	2	8	4	7	1	9	5	3				8	4	6	9	2	7	1	5	3
3	8	5	7	9	2	6	1	4	5	3	2	7	9	8	6	4	2	5	3	1
1	9	4	5	8	6	3	2	7	4	9	8	6	1	5	3	7	9	8	2	4
7	6	2	1	3	4	8	9	5	6	7	1	4	3	2	1	8	5	7	9	6
						9	7	2	1	6	3	8	5	4						
						4	3	8	9	5	7	1	2	6						
						5	6	1	2	8	4	9	7	3						
7	8	2	5	6	3	1	4	9	3	2	6	5	8	7	9	2	6	1	4	3
1	6	4	2	9	8	7	5	3	8	4	9	2	6	1	3	4	5	9	8	7
3	5	9	7	1	4	2	8	6	7	1	5	3	4	9	1	8	7	6	5	2
5	7	1	8	3	6	9	2	4				1	3	8	4	6	2	5	7	9
2	9	3	4	5	1	8	6	7				6	7	5	8	3	9	2	1	4
8	4	6	9	7	2	5	3	1				9	2	4	5	7	1	8	3	6
4	1	8	6	2	7	3	9	5				8	5	6	7	9	4	3	2	1
6	3	5	1	8	9	4	7	2				7	1	2	6	5	3	4	9	8
9	2	7	3	4	5	6	1	8				4	9	3	2	1	8	7	6	5

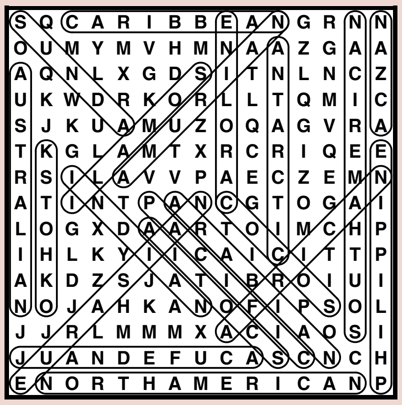
SMALL CROSSWORD

Across: 1 Christmas, **7** Stress, **9** Numeral, **10** Gram, **12** Leg, **13** Icicles, **14** End, **15** Same, **17** Plunges, **19** Severe, **20** Expresses. **Down: 1** Congress, **2** Hour, **3** Rum, **4** Structure, **5** Trails, **6** Ashes, **8** Suggests, **11** Miller, **13** Index, **16** Meme, **18** Gas.

TARGET

TRIVIALLY
airily, airy, alit, lair, laity, liar, lilt, lily, lira, rail, rial, rill, rival, riyal, tail, till, trail, trial, trill, trivial, TRIVIALLY, vial, villa, viral, vital, vitally

WORDSEARCH



S	Q	C	A	R	I	B	B	E	A	N	G	R	N	N
O	U	M	Y	M	V	H	M	N	A	A	Z	G	A	A
A	Q	N	L	X	G	D	S	I	T	N	L	N	C	Z
U	K	W	D	R	K	O	R	L	L	T	Q	M	I	C
S	J	K	U	A	M	U	Z	O	Q	A	G	V	R	A
T	K	G	L	A	M	T	X	R	C	R	I	Q	E	E
R	S	I	L	A	V	V	P	A	E	C	Z	E	M	N
A	T	I	N	T	P	A	N	C	G	T	O	G	A	I
L	O	G	X	D	A	A	R	T	O	I	M	C	H	P
I	H	L	K	Y	I	I	C	A	I	C	I	T	T	P
A	K	D	Z	S	J	A	T	I	B	R	O	I	U	I
N	O	J	A	H	K	A	N	O	F	I	P	S	O	L
J	J	R	L	M	M	M	X	A	C	I	A	O	S	I
J	U	A	N	D	E	F	U	C	A	S	C	N	C	H
E	N	O	R	T	H	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	P

THE ALPHABEATER

Black squares: 4, 5, 6, 11, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 33, 38.
Across: Magic, Touch, Ennui, Cloisters, Jig, Jewel, Brio, Arch, Lanky, Zip, Diversify, Album, Bylaw, Isles.
Down: Mangier, Vinyl, Job, Icicle, Prawn, Exonerating, Stash, Kayaks, Day, Scarf, Cliques.

CROSS DOUBT

Across: VILLA
Down: GIANT

SUMMIT UP

98 and 79

ARROW-WORD

	C		F		R		B		G		R				
P	O	T	A	T	O		E	E	R	I	E				
	A		I		A	W	N		E		P				
E	X	T	R	A	S		D	R	A	M	A				
		I		S	T	Y		U	S	E	R				
P	L	E	A	S	E		S	P	E	N	T				
	E		S	E	D	A	T	E		D	E	N		R	
B	O	A	S	T		C	R	E	A	S	E		C	O	B
	P		E		A	T	E		K			T	H	E	O
P	A	L	M	E	R		S	L	I	C	E		E		G
	R	I	B		C	A	S	I	N	O		R	A	R	E
O	D	D	L	Y		L		N		P	R	E	P	A	Y
	S	S	E		S	I	D	E		S	E	E		I	
					E		I	N	C	E	S	S	A	N	T
				I	V	E	S				T	E	N		O
					E		S	T	A	L	L		G	E	M
				U	N	R	E	A	L		E	X	E	R	T
					T		C	R	A	S	S		L	O	O
				W	H	I	T	E	N		S	P	A	S	M

THE ALPHAPUZZLE

Across: Kimono, Inlaid, Rap, Skin (clue), Wade, Cobra, Delta, Brawn, Sixty, Thick, Squat, Serfs, Ugly, Veal, Sag, Jingle, Galley.
Down: Dot, Pickle, Haggis, Moon, Yoga, Casks, Torso, Easel, Boxer, Wiper, Foggy, Abyss, Flaw, Vole, Mildew, Azalea, Not.

WORD BUILDER

Tea, Sate, Dates, Seated, Steed, Seed, See

SUDOKU EASY

3	1	9	8	5	6	7	2	4
2	8	6	4	9	7	3	5	1
5	4	7	1	2	3	8	9	6
7	6	3	5	8	4	2	1	9
4	2	1	7	3	9	5	6	8
8	9	5	6	1	2	4	7	3
6	7	8	2	4	1	9	3	5
1	3	4	9	7	5	6	8	2
9	5	2	3	6	8	1	4	7

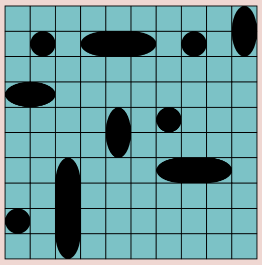
SUDOKU MEDIUM

9	2	8	3	6	1	7	4	5
7	5	4	8	2	9	1	3	6
1	3	6	7	4	5	2	9	8
2	6	1	5	8	3	4	7	9
8	4	7	9	1	6	5	2	3
5	9	3	2	7	4	6	8	1
3	7	9	1	5	2	8	6	4
4	1	2	6	3	8	9	5	7
6	8	5	4	9	7	3	1	2

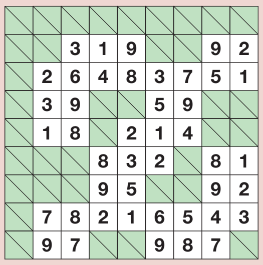
SUDOKU DIFFICULT

8	1	6	5	2	3	7	9	4
4	5	7	1	8	9	2	3	6
2	3	9	4	7	6	8	5	1
6	9	5	7	3	4	1	2	8
3	7	8	2	6	1	9	4	5
1	4	2	9	5	8	3	6	7
5	8	1	6	9	2	4	7	3
7	2	3	8	4	5	6	1	9
9	6	4	3	1	7	5	8	2

BATTLESHIPS

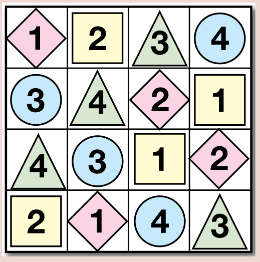


KAKURO



		3	1	9			9	2
	2	6	4	8	3	7	5	1
	3	9			5	9		
	1	8		2	1	4		
			8	3	2		8	1
			9	5			9	2
	7	8	2	1	6	5	4	3
	9	7			9	8	7	

KEIJO



1	2	3	4
3	4	2	1
4	3	1	2
2	1	4	3

QUICK CROSSWORD

Across: 7 Femur, **8** Rooster, **9** Elevate, **10** Anger, **12** Malevolent, **15** Strengthen, **18** Extra, **19** Weather, **21** Rustler, **22** Riled.
Down: 1 Effervesce, **2** Impel, **3** Aria, **4** Grieve, **5** Comatose, **6** Stagger, **11** Retrograde, **13** Annually, **14** Protest, **16** Tawdry, **17** Chill, **20** Acre.

QUIZWORD

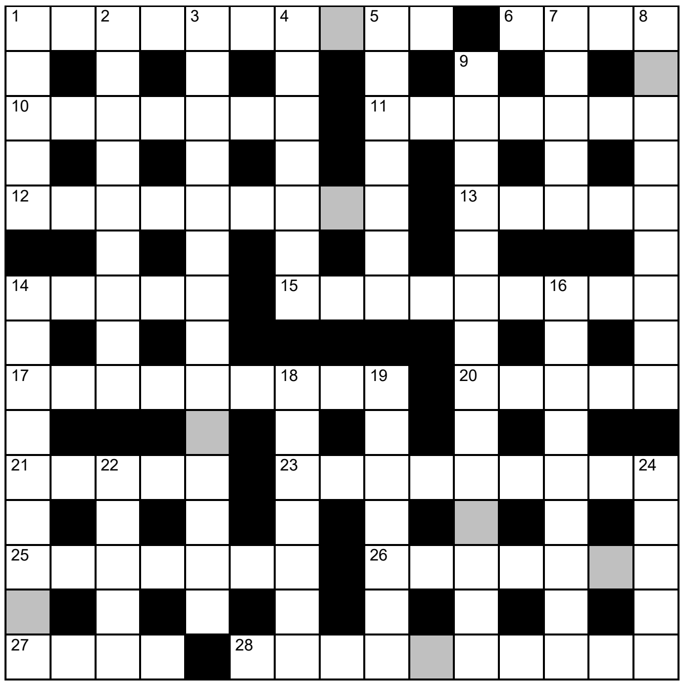
Across: 1 Colm Meaney, **7** Anzio, **8** Woodrow, **10** Ed O'Neill, **11** Zane, **13** Wilson, **15** Mai Tai, **17** Rope, **18** Messidor, **21** Denness, **22** Venom, **23** Wordsworth.
Down: 1 Cuzco, **2** Laomedon, **3** Mowgli, **4** Agon, **5** Earhart, **6** Waterworld, **9** When In Rome, **12** Passover, **14** Lepanto, **16** Seesaw, **19** Dench, **20** Lead.

Puzzles

CRUSADER PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Sandwiches on list constructed for knights (5,5)
6 Jump out of visible aperture (4)
10 Tasted a new group of facts (4,3)
11 Mythical creature to improvise with anger (7)
12 The rest to sell off cheap (9)
13 Illuminated, that man becomes supple (5)
14 Cat returned to the Spanish place to stay (5)
15 Loyal father getting group to twitch (9)
17 Failure to fall – that's sweet (5,4)
20 Volunteers lettuce as a dish (5)
21 Singular fear turned out to be less dangerous (5)
23 Chasm in Italy, a country of old (9)
25 Cry out for former right (7)
26 Vigour acquired with revolutionary bread (7)
27 Glass front missing an instrument (4)
28 English article, genuinely in a delicate way (10)

DOWN
1 Clause for an equestrian (5)
2 Deadline in final doesn't end with hesitation (9)
3 Follower, almost in song, to name a strict person (14)
4 New cadet at university behaved badly (5,2)
5 Always allow out a youngster (7)
7 Remove during massive victory (5)
8 Sent creep away for affectations (9)
9 Little intense, it turned out, for part of the body (5,9)
14 Tough alloy – it smelled awful (4,5)
16 Nice latch, terribly scientific (9)
18 Instructions nowadays included permit to enter again (7)
19 New play about sailor – the conclusion is due (7)
22 Confront temperature on the surface (5)
24 Mimicry from primate on railway (5)



WIN £100 CASH

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN
Read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word.

TO ENTER: Call **0904 161 3700** (calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge) and leave your answer and details, or text **DXCRUS** followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to **88833** (texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate). Lines close at midnight Saturday. Or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares by posting it to: Crusader Crossword, January 9, PO Box 8694, Derby DE1 9TW. Entries must be postmarked by January 10 at the latest. For any postal enquiries, call helpline number. SP: Spoke – 0333 202 3390.
An extra day is given for postal entries during bank holidays.

● ***One weekly winner will be the first random correct entry drawn from all entry routes after the closing date of midnight Saturday. Competition runs Sunday to Saturday. The Editor's decision is final.***

NEED HELP? Call **0904 161 1609** for 5 extra clues! Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Clashed, 5 Right on, 9 Optimised, 10 Alien, 11 Admiral, 12 Element, 13 Transatlantic, 18 Once and for all, 20 Hostess, 23 Passata, 25 Rouge, 26 Aphrodite, 27 Dresser, 28 Patient. **DOWN:** 1 Choral, 2 Asthmatic, 3 Homer, 4 Disclosed, 5 Ridge, 6 Guatemala, 7 Tripe, 8 Nonstick, 14 Awareness, 15 Troopship, 16 Talkative, 17 Bothered, 19 Patent, 21 Sauté, 22 Stair, 24 Short. **Prizeword:** Shimmer

TARGET

E	A	T
G	D	D
L	E	E

● *The Target uses words in the main body of Chambers 21st Century Dictionary (1999 edition)*

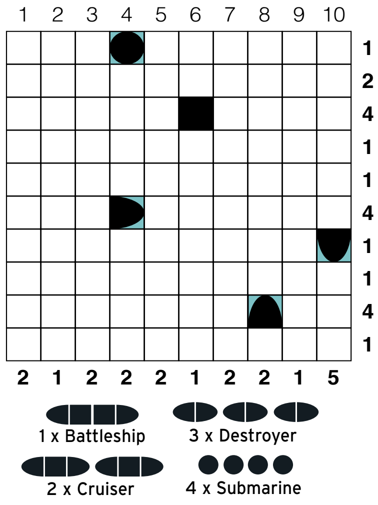
HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word. No plurals. Verb forms ending in S permitted.

TODAY'S TARGET
Good 16; **very good** 24; **excellent** 31 **(or more).** **Solution on Monday**

Call **0907 181 2585**
for today's Target solution
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

BATTLESHIPS

FIND where the fleet of ships shown is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in to start you off.
Solution on Monday



THE ALPHABEATER

TARGET TIME: 36 minutes

CAN you crack the Alphabeater? Each grid number represents a letter – or black square. As in Alphapuzzle, every letter of the alphabet is used. But you have to complete the grid too! Use the given letters and black squares below the grid to start. The grid is 'rotationally symmetrical' – in other words, it looks the same if you turn the page upside down.
Solution on Monday

Extra letter clues
0907 181 2560
(Deduct three minutes for each extra clue letter heard)
Full solution
0907 181 2558
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

A B C D E F ~~G~~ H I J K ~~L~~ ~~M~~ N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

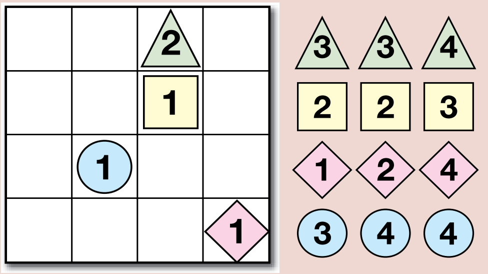
9	5	28	23	10	39	8	27	27	21	38	29	17
33	1	8	25	23	1	13	14	7	29	40	31	15
11	34	15	15	23	10	7	34	8	10	38	10	34
21	19	28	17	32	1	6	37	40	38	30	19	10
18	10	21	27	27	38	29	2	33	34	16	23	27
18	9	29	30	25	16	17	27	24	26	13	6	11
31	34	4	21	36	23	19	39	34	27	23	26	25
34	24	40	15	9	29	5	34	30	31	22	5	27
12	21	28	28	20	6	39	10	38	22	8	23	14
8	7	13	36	31	27	30	2	35	7	34	40	8
10	23	3	38	21	29	25	4	21	18	14	23	26
23	24	6	26	2	8	1	19	26	9	23	6	20
30	28	10	23	27	37	20	14	23	10	27	24	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			G											M					

21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
									■	■					L				

● Alternatively, for six Extra Letter clues to your mobile, text **DXBEAT to 64343.** Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.

KEIJO



Place the tiles into the grid so that four different numbers and four different shapes appear in each row and column.
Solution on Monday

THE ALPHAPUZZLE®

Alphapuzzle® tests logic and word power. Each grid number stands for a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. **Solution on Monday**
DIFFICULTY: 10/10; **TARGET:** 30 mins; **CLUE:** Beginning where film is shot.

A ~~B~~ C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q ~~R~~ S T U V W X Y Z

22	■	■	26	1	20	1	2	1	21	■	■	1
3	18	1	7	■	13	■	10	■	4	19	17	16
5	■	■	3	■	22	■	3	■	14	■	■	24
25	13	3	9	■	4	■	5	■	3	19	6	4
13	■	■	1	22	22	7	6	3	8	■	■	5
1	■	15	■	■	■	18	■	■	■	1	■	1
■	8	4	26	26	21	1	5	6	4	19	1	■
7	■	2	■	■	■	24	■	■	■	18	■	8
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18	3	7	21	■	19	■	2	■	1	18	14	1
13	■	■	7	■	5	■	3	■	21	■	■	1
8	13	5	5	■	1	■	5	■	4	24	13	5
6	■	■	12	3	6	8	10	1	19	■	■	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
								R				B

EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0907 181 2568*
Hear up to six Extra Letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard.
FULL SOLUTION: **0907 181 2565***
ACROSS ONLY: **0907 181 2561*** / DOWN ONLY: **0907 181 2562***
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text ***DXALPHA*** *to* ***64343.*** *Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.*

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THE DAILY EXPRESS 30-SECOND CHALLENGE

TODAY'S ANSWERS: BEGINNER = 4; INTERMEDIATE = 41; ADVANCED = 61.

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Editor's letter

Hello and welcome to this exclusive sewing sampler, a specially curated selection of sewing projects for you to enjoy making at home. First up, a gorgeous maxi dress with ruffle hem skirt – it's so easy to make! With just a few quick body measurements you can draft this pattern for yourself, no complicated graded paper sewing pattern required! And with no fiddly fastenings or buttonholes, this is such a simple make. For those after more of an everyday accessory, try your hand at some simple bag-making with this contemporary quilted shopper bag. You can show off your favourite print or pattern with this sleek design – make something bold for your holidays, a bespoke bag for a friend, or stay chic with a block colour and sew a bag that's guaranteed to go with anything in your wardrobe. Finally, a cosy hot water bottle with a handy pocket for your hands – how cute! This would make such a thoughtful gift for a friend, or better still make it for yourself, treat yourself to some luxury hot chocolate and curl up on the sofa with a good book. Whatever you choose to sew, we hope you enjoy the process and find joy from this wonderful hobby! Do share your makes with us on Facebook @simplysewingmagazine and Instagram @simplysewingmag.

Charlie

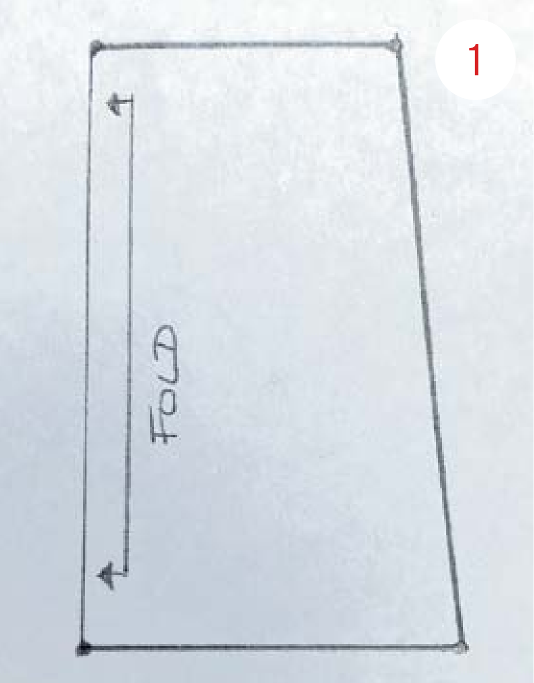
Editor, Simply Sewing

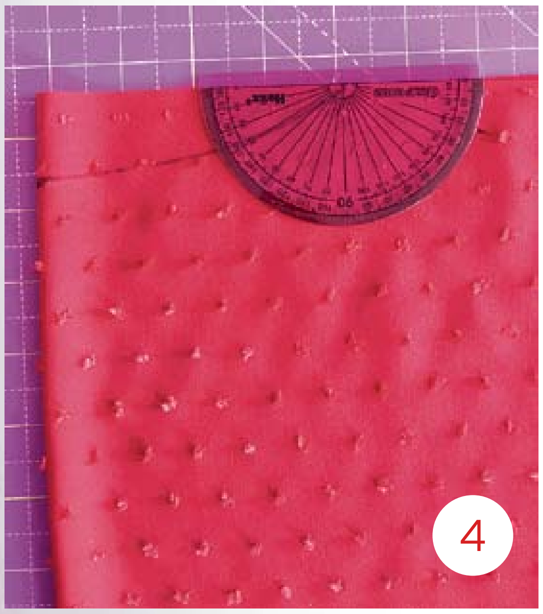
Holiday

HOW TO MAKE... A MAXI DRESS

RUTH BROWN

Ruth is a writer and designer based in the Peak District, UK. She creates garment, accessories and homeware patterns. See more at *grinlowstudio.com.*





MATERIALS

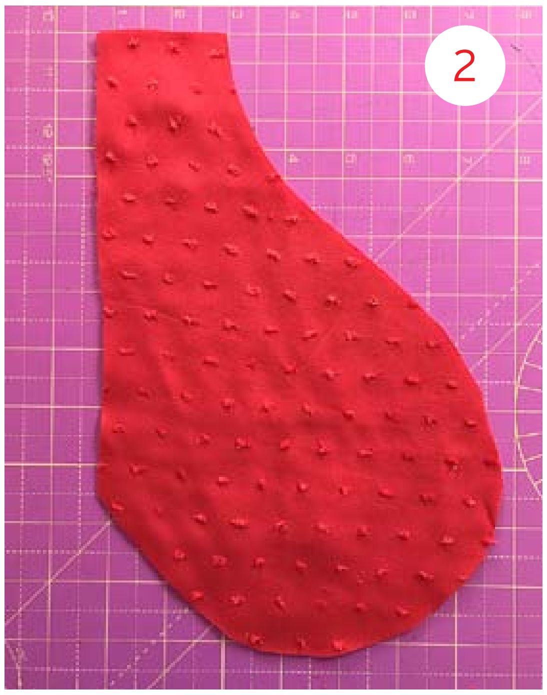
- 3-3.5 metres of 140cm wide drapey woven such as viscose, crepe or silk
- 12mm waistband elastic the length of the waist
- 1.5-2m of 1cm wide bias binding (shop bought or make your own)
- Fabric marking pens or chalk
- Straight and curved rulers
- Matching thread
- Basic sewing kit

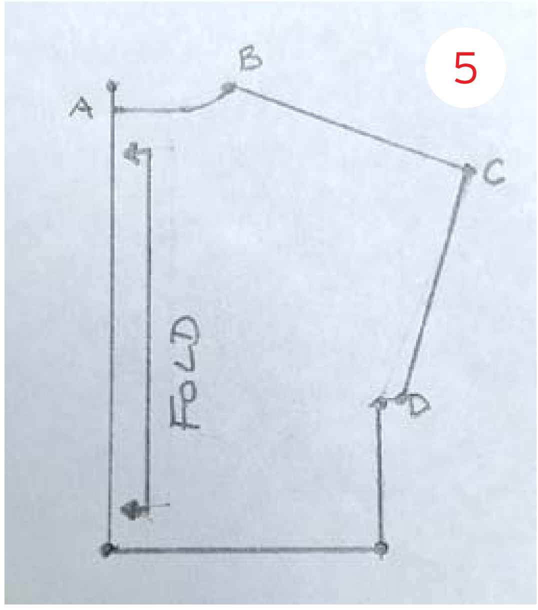
NOTES

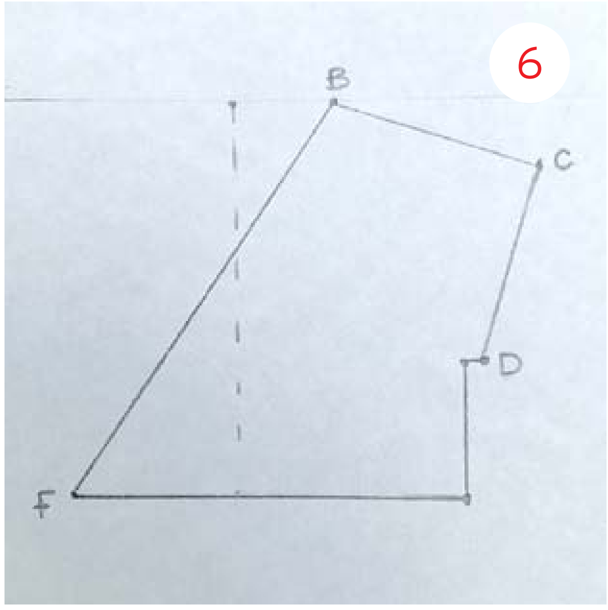
- Seam allowance is 1cm and hem allowance is
- 2.5cm, unless otherwise stated
- Find more sewing guides at gathered.how

vibes

Sew a relaxed-fit dress using just your measurements for elegant yet comfortable style







SKIRT - CUT TWO

Step one Measure from your waistline to 10cm above the knee. Add 4cm (eg. 46+4 = 50). Mark this length vertically on the fold.

Step two Measure your widest point (eg hips). Add 9cm then divide total by 4 (eg. hips 95+9 / 4 = 26). Mark this length horizontally at right angles to the top of the vertical line. This will be the waistline.

Step three Add 20 per cent to step two's measurement (eg. 26 + 5.2 = 31.2). At right angles to the bottom of the vertical line, mark this length horizontally to the right. Connect the end point of this line with the end point of the waistline. ①

Step four For the Ruffle, cut two 100-125cm wide strips to your preferred length. We opted for a 60cm long ruffle.

Step five For the Pockets, mark a line 5cm across and 7.5cm down on one side. Place hand below, thumb pointing away from the vertical line, and draw around it. Connect the pocket curve with the 5cm horizontal line on one side and continue the 7.5cm line down to meet the bottom of the pocket curve on the other. Cut two mirrored pairs. ②

Step six For the Waist Tie, cut a 10cm strip the length of the waist x 2 (eg. 70 x 2 = 140cm).

TOP BACK - CUT ONE ON FOLD

Step one Measure from nape to waistline + 4cm (eg. 41 + 4 = 45). Mark this length down the fold to create the centre back.

Step two At the top of this line, measure down 3cm and mark (point A) and also across 11cm and mark (point B). Join these points to create a gently curved neckline. ③

Step three Using a protractor, measure a 20 degree downwards angle from point B. Measure 25cm along this line and mark the grown-on sleeve end at point C. ④

Step four At right angles to the bottom of the vertical line, draw a horizontal line the length of the waistline measurement (in step 2 for the skirt, above: eg. hips 95+9 /4 = 26).

Step five At right angles to the end this horizontal line, measure a vertical line one third the length of the centre back measurement in step one (eg. 45/3 = 15). At the top and to the right of this line, draw a short 2.5cm horizontal line (point D).

Step six Connect point D with point C to create the sleeve hem. ⑤

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HOW TO MAKE... A MAXI DRESS

TOP FRONT - CUT ONE PAIR

Step one Mark the nape to waistline measurement (eg. 41 + 4 = 45) again, this time down the centre of the fabric or at least 18cm from the fold or selvedge. Mark point B only, 11cm along from the top of this line.

Step two Follow steps three, four, five and six for top back.

Step three Measure 18cm to the left of the bottom of the vertical line drawn in step one and mark (point F).

Step four Connect point B to point F with a straight ruler to create the front neckline. ⑥

STITCH THE BODICE

Step one Stay stitch the neckline from hem to neck just inside the 1cm seam allowance.

Step two Pin Top Front and Top Back right side (RS) together at the shoulders. Stitch. Finish seam and press towards the back.

Step three Press sleeve hem 1cm and then again 1.5cm. Tuck raw edges at either end under on the diagonal. Top stitch.

Step four Pin side seams RS together and stitch, stitching over the sleeve hem at the underarm. Finish seam edges together. ⑦

Step five Fold bias binding over the raw edge of neckline and topstitch in place, ensuring stitching has included all layers. Trim ends. ⑧

Step six With RS up, matching centre fronts, place right front over left front. Align lower edges and baste. ⑨

STITCH THE SKIRT

Step one Place Pocket pieces RS together with Skirt Front and Backs, matching tops and sides. Stitch with 0.5cm seam allowance. Finish raw edges the length of pocket plus 2cm below. ⑩

Step two Place Skirt Front and Back RS together. Stitch around pocket edges and down skirt sides to hem. Finish edges. Stitch 5cm from top of pocket and 3cm from bottom of pocket on each side at the 1cm side seam allowance to create neat openings. Press pockets to front and baste upper pocket edge to skirt front waist. ⑪

JOIN BODICE AND SKIRT

Step one Place top and skirt RS together at the waistline and, matching side seams, stitch together with a 2.5cm seam allowance. Stitch again 1cm from the raw edge, leaving a 3cm gap to thread elastic.

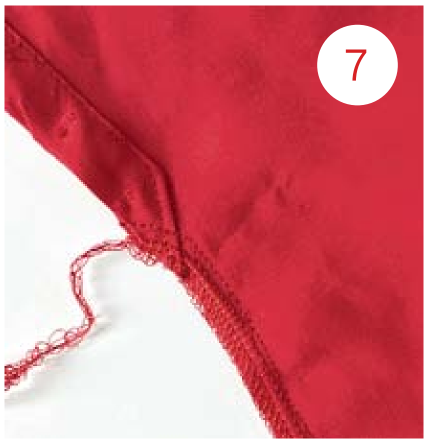
Step two Using a safety pin attached to one end, thread elastic through the channel until it emerges at the other side. Ensure elastic is flat and sew ends together with a 1.5cm overlap. Stitch channel closed. Finish seam edges. ⑫

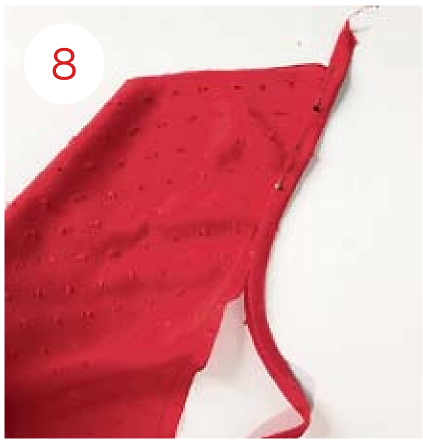
FINISHING OFF

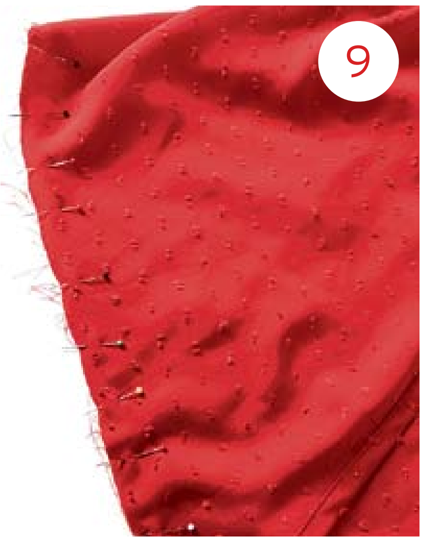
Step one Sew short ends of ruffle pieces RST and finish edges. Hem ruffle, folding 1cm and then 1.5cm. On the upper edge, stitch one row of gathering stitches at 0.75cm and another at 1cm. Matching side seams, pin to skirt, distributing gathers evenly. Stitch. Finish seam.

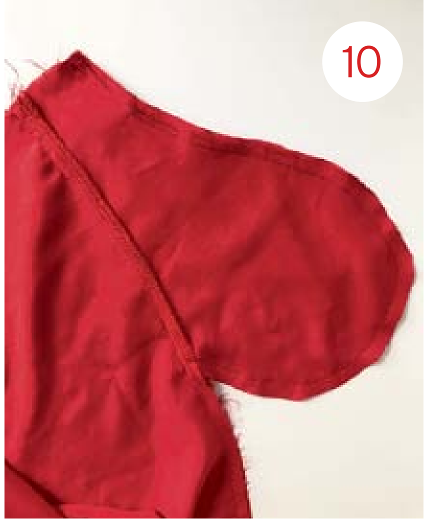
Step two Fold Waist Tie lengthwise RS together. Sew diagonally across short edges and straight along the long edge, leaving a 5cm turning gap. Turn RS out, press. Slip stitch gap closed.

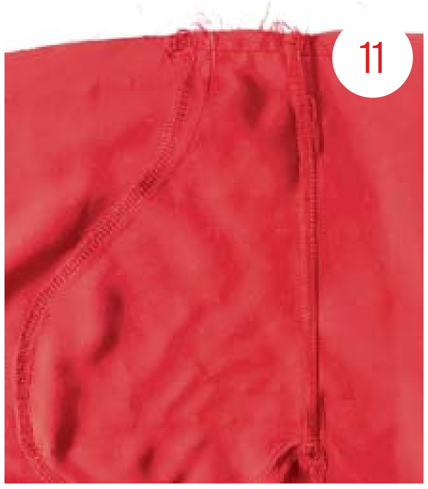
Step three Give everything a good press.

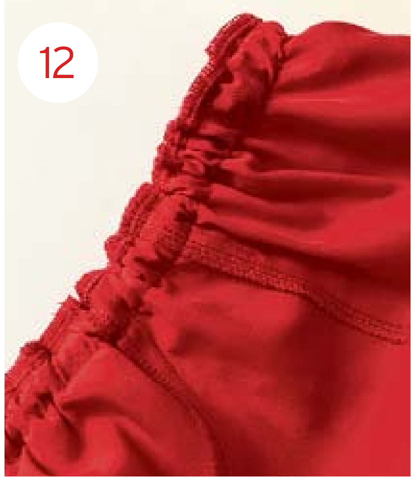












DEBBIE VON
GRABLER-C

Debbie von Grabler-Crozier. Debbie's two loves are crafting and quantum physics! Follow her on Instagram at @*craftyvamp* or visit her website *thefolkartfactory.com.*

HOW TO MA

MATERIALS

- Canvas: 1m x 150cm for the
- Cotton: 1m x 150cm for the
- Vlieseline 279 80/20 cotto wadding: 115x244cm
- Style-Vil foam interfacing: 115x72cm
- S320 iron-on interfacing: fat quarter
- Magnetic snap

ardrobe ssential

Combine practical and pretty with this quilted tote bag – perfect for everyday use

ROZIER

KE... A QUILTED TOTE BAG

e outer
e lining
on mix

NOTES

- Seam allowance is 5mm.
- Waddings and interfacings available at vlieseline.com.
- Download the templates at gathered.how

CUTTING OUT

Step one From the outer fabric, cut:
Front and Back Outer: two using template A.
Handles: two using template B
Slip Pocket Outer: one using template C
Facing Panels: two using template D
Step two From the lining fabric, cut:
Front and Back Lining: two using template E
Slip Pocket Lining: one using template C
Inner Slip Pockets: four using template D
Step three From the S320 interfacing, cut:
Inner Slip Pocket Interfacing: two 20x10cm
Front Slip Pocket Interfacing: one 20x15cm
Step four From the wadding, cut:
Front and Back Outer Wadding: two 50x50cm

MAKING THE POCKETS

Step one Press the iron-on interfacing to the wrong side (WS) of the relevant outer Pocket panels. The three Pockets (one on the front, two inside) are all constructed in the same way. ①

Step two To make a Pocket, take an interfaced piece and an un-interfaced piece and pin right sides (RS) together. Sew all around the very edge of the interfacing, leaving a turning gap in the bottom. ②

Step three Trim the seam allowance on the Pocket back to 5mm and clip across the corners. Repeat for the other Pockets.

Step four Turn the Pockets out through the gap and press so that the edges are perfect. Find the vertical centre of both the Pocket and the Lining panels. Put the Slip Pocket destined to go on the front of the bag aside for now.

Step five Place an Inner Slip Pocket 7.5cm from the top on one of the Front/Back Lining panels and pin.

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HOW TO MAKE... A QUILTED TOTE BAG

Step six Attach the pocket with a narrow topstitch on the sides and base. Repeat for the other Inner Slip Pocket.
Step seven Sew a centre vertical seam through the pocket using the centre crease for guidance.
Step eight Attach a Facing Panel to the top edge of both pieces of Lining and topstitch narrowly. Find the centre and 3cm down from the top and attach a magnetic snap. ③

MAKING THE HANDLES

Step one Fold the Handle in half lengthways with the wrong sides (WS) together. Press a crease and then fold the two long raw edges to the centre crease and press again.
Step two Topstitch along both long sides of the Handle. Repeat to make the other Handle.
Step three Take the Front Outer panel and lay it onto one of the pieces of wadding. Pin and quilt it with quilting lines about 1cm apart. Repeat for the Back Outer, trim the wadding back. ④
Step four Find the vertical centre of the Front Outer and also the Front Slip Pocket. Lining up the centre marks, place the Front Slip Pocket on the Front Outer 11.5cm down from the top edge of the bag with a narrow topstitch. ⑤
Step five Attach both quilted panels to a slightly larger piece of Style-Vil interfacing with a narrow tacking stitch then trim the foam back.

ASSEMBLING THE BAG

Step one Attach the Handles 14cm from the side seams. Allow the Handles to overhang the edge by 1cm; this will make them stronger when they are caught in the seam later on.
Step two With the RS together and the seams matching, sew along the Lining sides and the base, leaving a turning gap in the base seam.
Step three Repeat for the Outer but this time, do not leave the turning gap.
Step four With the Outer inside out, draw a 5cm square in both lower corners and cut out. ⑥
Step five Pinch the side and base seams together to box the base and sew across. Repeat for the lining.
Step six With the Outer RS out and the lining WS out, pull the lining on over the outer and line the seams up (RS will be together). Sew around the top edge leaving no gaps.

FINISHING

Step one Turn the bag out through the turning gap in the lining and close the gap. Push the lining down into the bag and topstitch the top edge narrowly.
Step two Finally, hand stitch-in-the-ditch around the edge of the facing where it meets the lining, keeping your stitches small.

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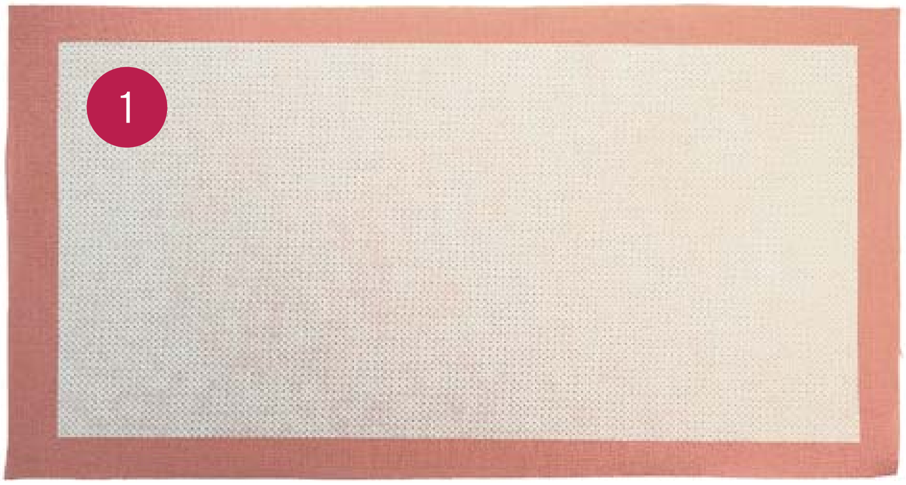
Get into
DRESSMAKING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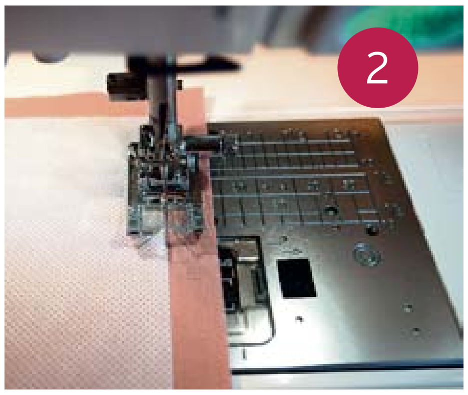
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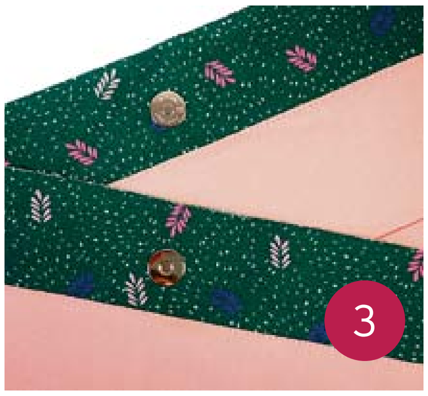
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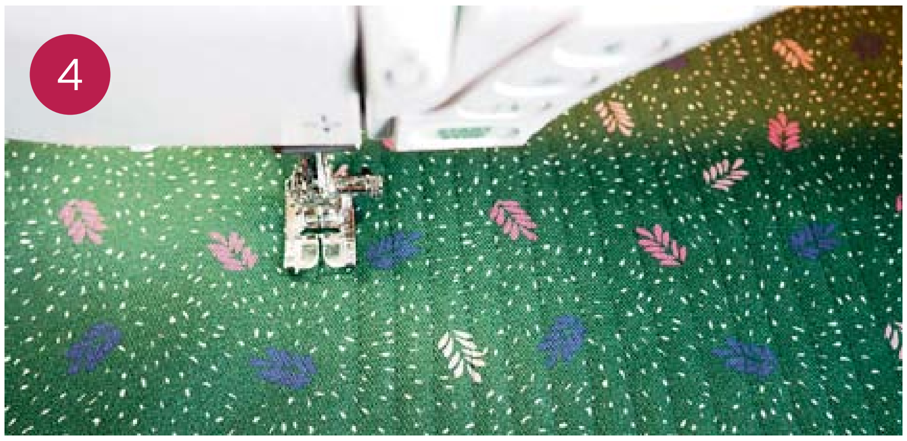
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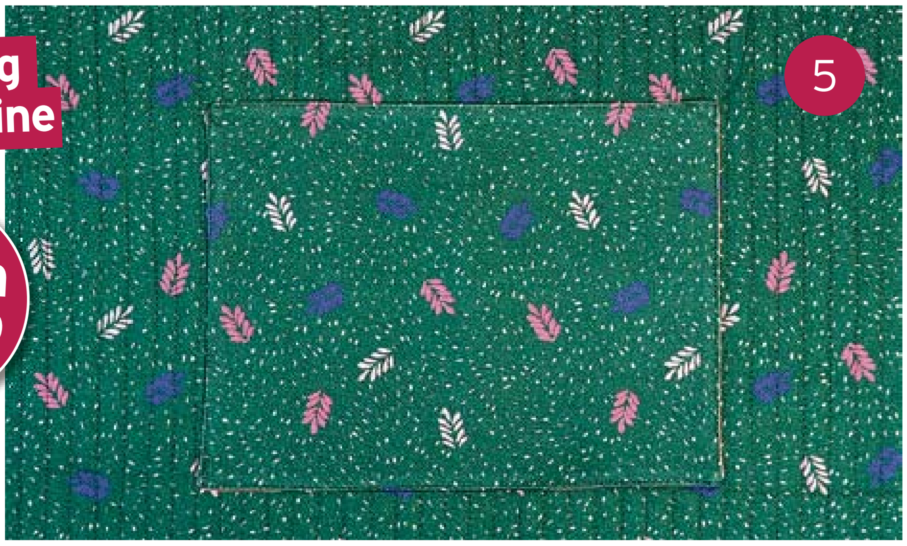
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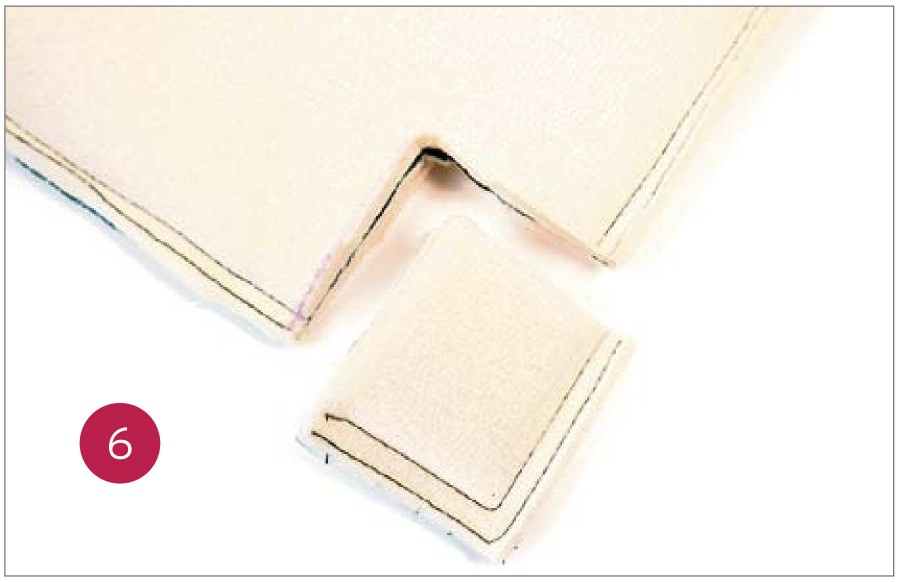
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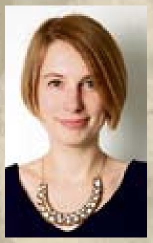
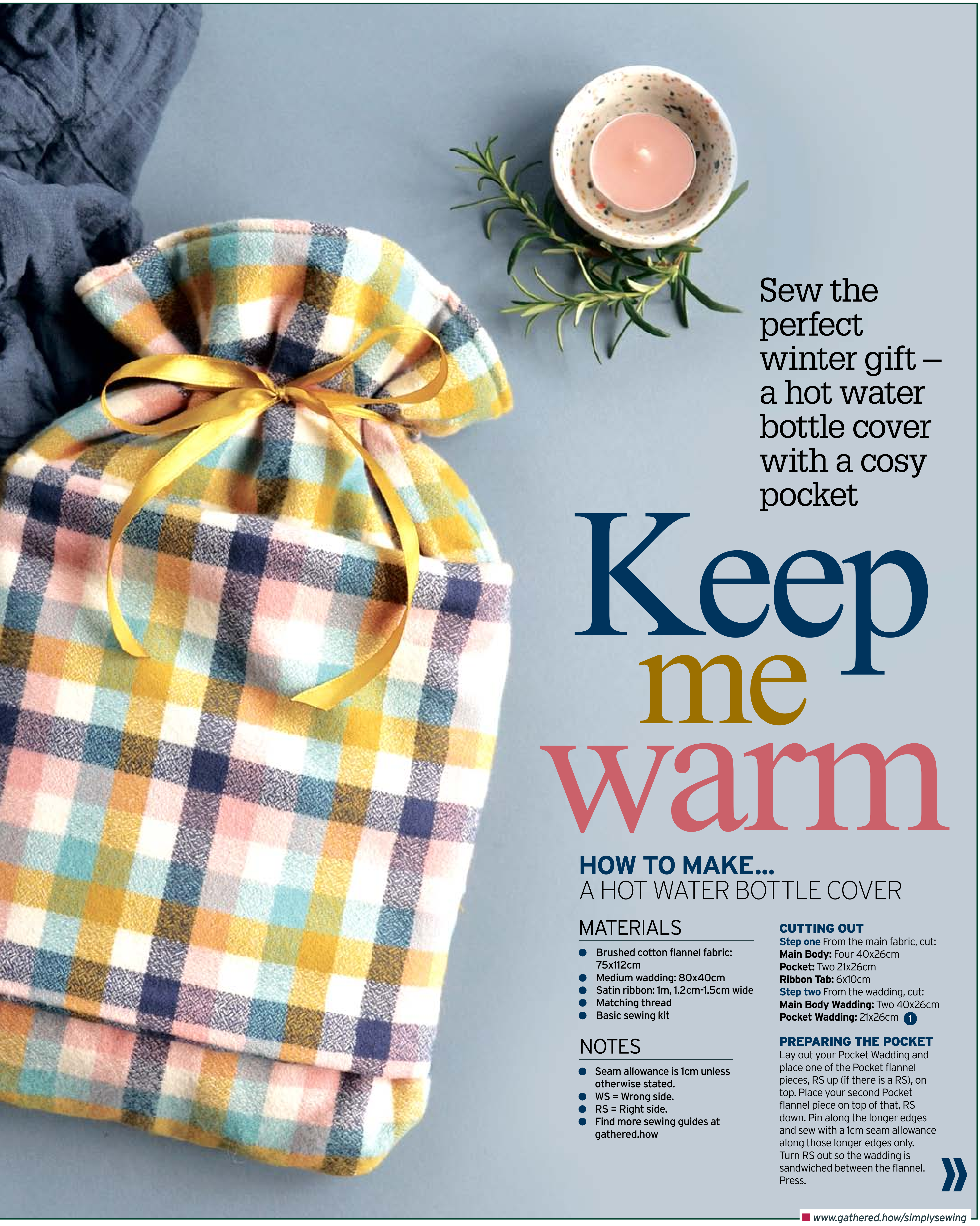


Anna is a freelance craft writer, designer, and sewist who creates projects for magazines and books. See more of her work on socials *@aalicialondon.*



Sew the perfect winter gift – a hot water bottle cover with a cosy pocket

Keep me warm

HOW TO MAKE...
A HOT WATER BOTTLE COVER

MATERIALS

- Brushed cotton flannel fabric: 75x112cm
- Medium wadding: 80x40cm
- Satin ribbon: 1m, 1.2cm-1.5cm wide
- Matching thread
- Basic sewing kit

NOTES

- Seam allowance is 1cm unless otherwise stated.
- WS = Wrong side.
- RS = Right side.
- Find more sewing guides at gathered.how

CUTTING OUT

Step one From the main fabric, cut:
Main Body: Four 40x26cm
Pocket: Two 21x26cm
Ribbon Tab: 6x10cm
Step two From the wadding, cut:
Main Body Wadding: Two 40x26cm
Pocket Wadding: 21x26cm ①

PREPARING THE POCKET

Lay out your Pocket Wadding and place one of the Pocket flannel pieces, RS up (if there is a RS), on top. Place your second Pocket flannel piece on top of that, RS down. Pin along the longer edges and sew with a 1cm seam allowance along those longer edges only. Turn RS out so the wadding is sandwiched between the flannel. Press.

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HOW TO MAKE... A HOT WATER BOTTLE COVER

Simply Sewing

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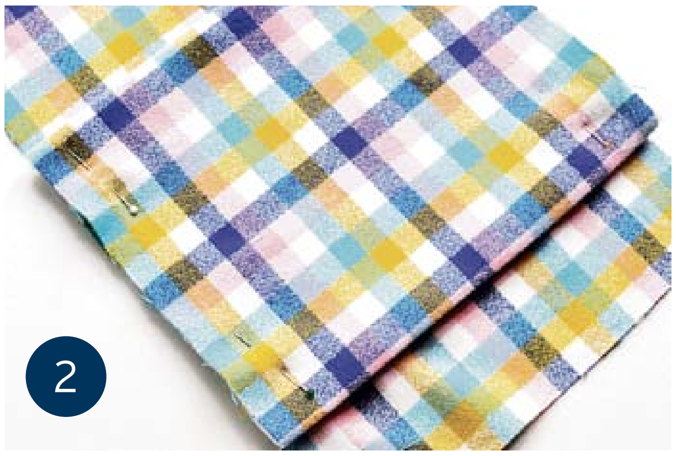

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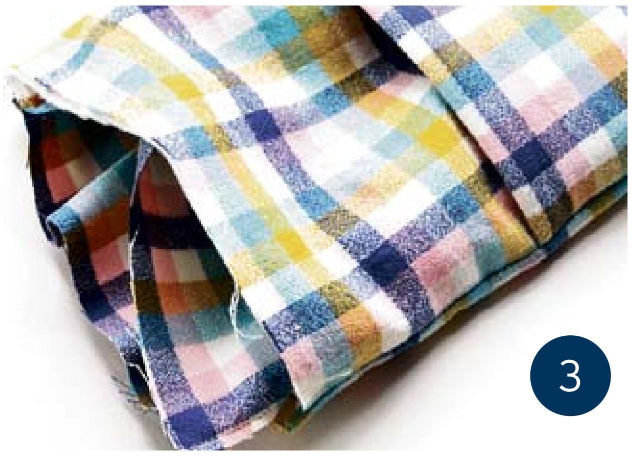

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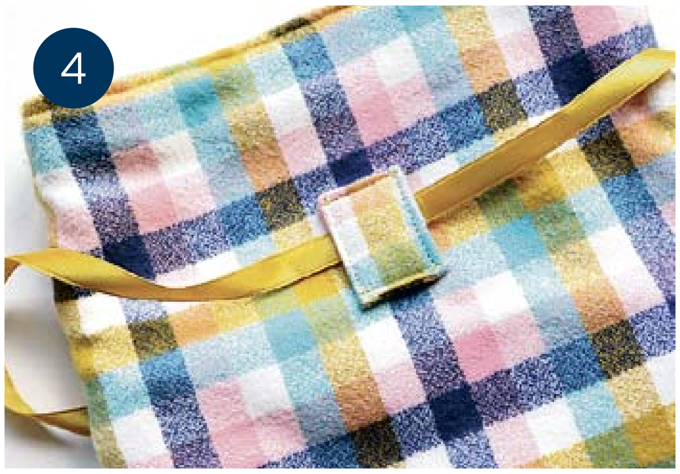

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MAKING THE FRONT PANEL

Step one Lay out one of the Main Body flannel pieces in portrait position, RS up. Place the Pocket piece on top (it should be the same width), 6cm up from the bottom narrower edge.

Step two Pin along the raw edges of the Pocket piece and sew with a zigzag stitch along those raw edges (this will be hidden later). This will become the front panel of your hot water bottle cover. ②

MAKING THE RIBBON TAB

Step one The Ribbon Tab will be used to thread the ribbon through at the neck of the hot water bottle. Take the Ribbon Tab flannel and fold the longer edges in by 1cm. Press to crease.

Step two Now fold the fabric in half, WS together, so that the shorter edges meet and press. Unfold, then fold the edges in to meet along the centre crease and press again. Finally, fold along the centre crease again and press. Stitch along the longer edges of the Ribbon Tab, approximately 2mm in from the folded edges.

MAKING THE BACK PANEL

Step one Lay out one of your Main Body flannel pieces in portrait position with the RS of the fabric facing up. Place the Ribbon Tab rectangle 9cm down from the top edge and equidistant from the left and right-hand sides.

Step two Pin the Ribbon Tab in place and then sew along the top and bottom edges to secure it.

ASSEMBLING THE HOT WATER BOTTLE

Step one Lay out your two remaining pieces of Main Body Wadding, one on top of the other in portrait position. Lay your assembled front panel on top, RS up – make sure it is the right way up with the pocket closer to the bottom edge. Lay your back panel on top, RS down – again, make sure it is the right way up, with the Ribbon Tab closer to the top edge.

Step two At both bottom corners, mark a diagonal line across the corner, from 4cm in along the bottom edge to 4cm up the side edge.

Step three Pin along the side and bottom edges, then sew with a 1cm seam allowance, sewing along the diagonal lines that cut across the corners. Leave the top edge open.

Step four Trim your seam allowance to 5mm and trim across the bottom corners.

Step five Turn your cover RS out so that the wadding ends up on the inside.

MAKING THE LINING

Step one To make the lining, lay out your remaining two pieces of Main Body flannel, one on top of the other. Mark across the bottom corners, then pin and sew the lining as you did for the outer.

Step two Tuck your lining down into the outer. Fold the top edges in by 1cm to face each other and pin together. Sew around the top edge, 4-5mm in. ③

ADDING THE RIBBON

Step one Finally, we just need to add the ribbon. Place your hot water bottle into your cover. Thread your length of ribbon through the Ribbon Tab at the back of your cover, bring the ends to the front, gathering the fabric around the neck of the hot water bottle as you do so. ④

Step two Tie your ribbon in a large bow and trim away any excess ribbon.

Step three With a lighter or candle flame, carefully seal the ends of your ribbon.

Step four Untie your ribbon to remove the hot water bottle. To warm your hands, simply slide them into the pocket section.